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Jiang Zemin Pays an Official Goodwill Visit to DPRK

Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and President of the People's Republic of China, paid an official goodwill visit to the DRPK from September 3 to 5,2001 at the invitation of Kim Jong IL , general secretary of the Worker's Party of Korea and chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK. The Chinese President was accompanied by a number of senior Chinese officials, including Qian Qichen, a member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and vice-premier of the State Council; Zeng Qinghong, alternate member of the Political Bureau and member of the Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee; Guo Boxiong, member of the Central Military Commission of the CPC and deputy chief of the General Staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army; Wang Gang, director of the General Office of the CPC Central Committee; Liu Huaqiu, director of the Foreign Affairs Office of the CPC Central Committee; Wang Guozhang, Chinese ambassador to DPRK. Kim Jong IL warmly welcomed Jiang Zemin at Pyongyang airport. The two leaders held private and offcial talks, which were held in a sincere and friendly atmosphere. They briefed each other on the political and economic situation in their respective countries, had an exhaustive exchange of views on the issue of further developing DPRK-China relations. They also discussed matters of mutual concern, including the international and regional situations, and reached a consensus of views on the matters raised. The two leaders stressed that vigorously strengthening and developing the traditional friendly and cooperative DPRK-China relations in the new century was in full accord with the desire and the fundamental interests of the two peoples, and would make a positive contribution to achieving peace, stability and progress in Asia and the rest of the world.

Enjoying the mass gymnastic display and performance
”Ever-Victorious Workers’ Party of Korea”

and cooperative relations between the two parties, governments and peoples have developed well in recent years under the deep concern of the two leaders, stressing that it is the consistent stand of the WPK and the DPRK government to value and further develop DPRK-China ties. Jiang Zemin, referring to his memorableThey agreed to make joint efforts to maintain the tradition of high-level exchange and visits between the two parties and countries, and strengthen exchange and cooperation in different fields, and put friendly and cooperative relations on a higher stage. Kim Jong IL appreciated the fact that friendly

Inspection of an ostrich farm in suburban Pyongyang.

meeting with President Kim IL Sung during his 1990 visit to DPRK, remarked that although great changes have taken place over the last eleven years in the domestic situations of the two countries, as well as in the international environment, the traditional China-DPRK friendship, secured and developed by the older-generation leaders of the two nations, has remained strong. Jiang Zemin noted that Kim Jong IL visited China in May last year and in January this year to further promote mutual understanding and confidence between the two parties, the two countries and the two people. He expressed his readiness to work with the WPK, DPRK government and people in the new century to push the relationship (To be continued on page 6)

Into a new stage of development. At the meetings and talks, mutual support and solidarity were expressed for the two peoples in their efforts for socialist construction and national reunification. Kim Jong IL referred to the fact that the Chinese people, under the leadership of the Communist Party of China led by Jiang Zemin, have made tremendous achievements in the socialist modernization drive with Chinese characteristics. He said that the politics advanced by the CPC, including the " three representations" theory, suit the specific conditions of China and enjoy widespread support from its people. He expressed support for the cause of the Chinese Party and government in its quest to achieve the complete reunification of the country on the principle of " one China", and appreciated the efforts made by China in the international arena to defend global peace and stability against hegemony, part of its peaceful diplomatic policy of independence and sovereignty. Jiang Zemin spoke of his admiration for the new achievements made by the Korean people in socialist construction, foreign relations and in their work for the independent and peaceful reunification of their country in recent years under the leadership of Kim Jong IL . He hoped that the" industrious, brave and resourceful" Korean people would advance along the road of development suited to Korea's specific conditions, by displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and hard work under the leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea led by Kim Jong IL , and thus build a powerful and thriving Korea. Noting that China, as a close neighbour, has paird close attention to the development of the situation on the Korean peninsula and made consistent efforts for peace and stability in the region, the Chinese leader said he appreciated and supported the efforts made by the north and the south of Korea for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country and, in particular, the recent steps taken by the DPRK for the improvement of inter-Korean relations. He reiterated his support for improving and normalizing the DPRK's relations with various countries and organizations, including the United States and European Union. The Chinese side informed the DPRK of its decision to provide the latter with aid consisting of 200,000 tonnes of food and 30,000 tonnes of diesel oil unprecedentedly long spell of drought that hit the DPRK this spring. The Korean side expressed its thanks for this assistance. The two leaders had a wide-ranging exchange of views on a series of international issues and agreed to make joint efforts to establish a new, fair international political and economic order on the principle of mutual respect for sovereignty, non-interference in other's internal affairs, equality and reciprocity, and to achieve peace and development in the Asia-Pacific region. Kim Jogn IL gave a grand banquet in honour of Jiang Zemin's visit on September 3. Jiang Zemin also met Kim Yong Nam, president of the Presidium of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly, and Hong Song Nam, premier of the DPRK Cabinet during his visit. On his visit to Kumsusan Memorial Palace, where the great President Kim IL Sung, father of socialist Korea, lies in state, he laid a floral basket and bowed before his statue, and left the words" His exploits are outstanding and his cause lasts for good" in the visitor's book. The two leaders enjoyed the mass gymnastic display and performance " Ever-Vicious Workers' Party of Korea" together. They also paid a visit to an ostrich farm in the suburbs of Pyongyang. Jiang Zemin, visited Kim IL Sung's native home at Mangyongdae, the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace and the Grand People's Study House. He laid a wreath at the Friendship Tower, to remember the Chinese volunteers who died in the Korean war. During his tour of the capital, he said the achievements of the Korean people in socialist construction had left a deep impression on him and he hoped they would win greater success in their building of a prosperous and powerful country through single-hearted unity behind Kim Jong IL . Jiang Zemin's successful visit to the DPRK took place amid the warm welcome and cordial hospitality of the Workers' Party, government and people of Korea. The Chinese leader expressed full satisfaction with his visit and sent a message of thanks to Kim Jong IL for the warm hospitality he received. His visit drew the keen interest of the two people and the international community, and marked a historical event in further deepening the close relationship between the two leaders and in steadily developing DPRK-China relations in the 21st century. The DPRK-China friendship, on the basis of the close relationship between Kim Jong IL and Jiang Zemin, is sure to grow stronger and develop in line with the requirements of the new century, thanks to the joint efforts of the two peoples.

The source of Power of the Workers' Party of Korea

The Workers' Party of Korea was founded on October 10, 56 years ago, with the Down-with-Imperialism Union, which was formed on October 17, 1926, as its historic roots. On the occasion of the founding anniversary, the Korean people look back emotionally upon the history of the Party. The road it has followed has often been a hard one. The recent years of the " Arduous March" were a particularly difficult time in the history of the Party, almost unprecedented since its foundation. The unexpected death of President Kim IL Sung founder of the Party and father of the DPRK, was the greatest loss suffered by the Party and the people. Repeated natural calamities and increased activity to stifle the country by the imperialists were serious obstacles in the way of the Party and the revolution. Although it was the worst-ever situation it had been in, the Party did not lose faith in its beliefs, continuing its forward march vigorously. What is the source of the power with which the Party came through such difficulties? In a nutshell, it is the harmonious whole of the Party and the masses. Harmonious whole means that the Party and the masses become a single community who travel together towards one destination. The working-class Party is said to be inseparable from the masses. This is because the Party is the guiding force for the masses, while the masses from the socio-political base of the Party. Without the Party's leadership, the masses cannot hew out their proper destiny and without the support from the masses the Party cannot maintain its leading positions. This is a valuable lesson of history. The harmonious whole of the Party and the masses does not come of itself. The Workers' Party of Korea made it an important principle to establish a close friendship with the masses from its early days, and has made strenuous efforts to consolidate the relationship since then. The Party has put the people's interests at the core of its politics at all times. All the policies adopted by the Party for the last 56 years are without exception the reflection of the wishes and demands of the people. That is why they have accepted the Party's policies as their own, supported them absolutely, and worked devotedly for their implementation. The slogan " As the Party decides, so we do!" common among the people, is a good example of their trust in the Party's decisions. The WPK takes responsibilities for the destiny of every member of the nation, an dooks after each one. Mothers do not discriminate between their children, but show equal love to each of them. As a result, children do not fail to remember their mothers all their lives. In Korea, the WPK is referred to as the motherly Party. It has integrated itself with the people at all times and worked well with people from all works of life, never distancing itself form them. In particular, it shows unstinting trust in those people who have questionable family backgrounds and socio-doubt. The close concern of the Party for every family is rewarded with the absolute confidence of the people in the Party and very close ties between the Party and the masses. This is why Japanese Korean women, on their visits home to Japan, told their family members and relatives that the Parry's care for them is like that of a mother, and their family members in Japan sent letters of thanks to leader Kim Jong IL . The whole of the WPR has acquired the habit of working solely for the people. The working class Party is an organization that woks for the interests of the people. The Party's popular politics influence the masses through Party officials and members. To closely combine the Party's leadership and the mass line is a fundamental principle of Party activities, and all levels of Party organization and officials work faithfully for the people. If you visit Party or government offices in Korea, you can see a sign which reads," Serve the people". This is the epitome of the Party's principle and activities. One of the important traits of Party officials is

Quotes from Kim Jong IL

"The guarantee of the Invlnclbliity of a political party lies In the fact that it takes root In the masses and forms a harmonious whole with them."
"The masses are teachers in everything and creators of all."
"There can be no political party and leader Isolated from the masses. The leader and the party are both in existence for the sake of the people."
"Working well with the people makes It possible to demolish mountains and fill rivers." ***"If*** **there is an omnipotent being in the world, It is none other than the masses." "A miracle is not a gift from Heaven; it Is something inevitable wrought by the people."**

the willingness to go among the people and share the good and bad times with them. Some officials are practical types, like 0 Ki Sok, chief Party secretary in Jongphyong County, South Hamgyong Province, who was praised by Kim Jong IL as a hero; some are kind-hearted, adopting orphaned children; others are of an honest-working type, making devoted efforts for over ten years to help improve people's living conditions. These laudable practices are believed to be the sunshine of the benevolent politics of the WPK.WPK government has developed all the people into men and women of sound ideology and strong faith who are guided solely by the Party's revolutionary idea. The people are braving through difficulties and ordeals in the revolutionary spirit of soldiers, and carrying on socialist construction with united force and mass heroism. This is because they are tied with the Party ideologically and morally, of their own volition. Unity with the Party is the source of invincible power with which the people can perform feat after feat with confidence in victory and dauntless courage.The unity between the Party and the masses in Korea is the heart and soul of the exploits made by leader Kim Jong IL . At the critical time when Korea stood at the crossroads—safeguarding socialism or succumbing to the slavery of imperialism—he produced his original army-centred philosophy, the idea that the army is precisely the Party, the state and the people. By this philosophy he intends to further strengthen the People's Army, the most reliable force in terms of both loyalty to the Party and the leader and strongest in organization, discipline and unity, in order to make it a model in intensifying the revolutionary force as a whole.

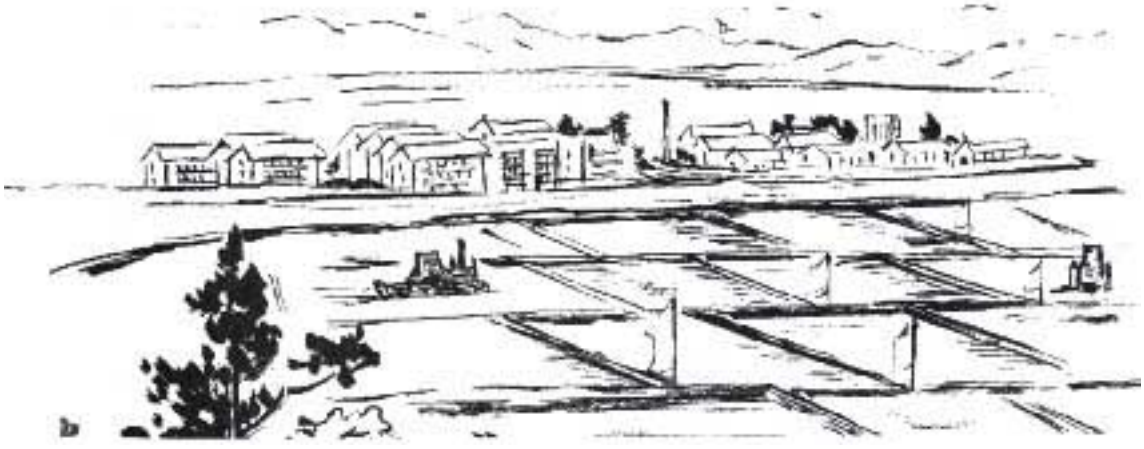
The People's Army is now heroically performing its role as the main force in national defence and socialist construction. The revolutionary spirit of soldiers created by the army in the work to make a breakthrough in the most difficult tasks of socialist construction is the general ethos of the nation's forceful advance through all manner of hardships. It is through this process that the springboard for building a powerful and prosperous state has been laid. Kim Jong IL's army-centred policy is strengthening the unity between the Party and the people, the single-hearted unity of the Korean society, to an ever higher level. Kim Jong IL was elected the General Secretary of the WPK on October 8, 1997.On the fourth anniversary of the event, the Korean people are now filled with a firm resolve to strengthen steel-strong the single-hearted unity of the leader, Party and masses with him at the helm of the Party for ever.

Sin Hye Gyong

Blessed with Good People

In April, while inspecting the state of land realignment in South Hwanghae Province, leader Kim Jong IL looked round the Jonjin Plain in Samchon County of the same province. The former patches of field on the plain had disappeared, replaced by larger, standardized plots, creating an orderly scene which stretched as far as the eye can see. At the foot of a hill stood rows of nice, modern houses. The pleasant smell of the soil and the fragrance of flowers could be discerned, carried on the spring breeze. Surveying the new appearance of the county, Kim Jong IL said, smiling brightly: "This is the scenery of the socialist ideal. If machines are provided, our farmers will be free from hard labour once and for all. This is what President Kim IL Sung wished for in his lifetime. " When land realignment and comprehensive mechanization are completed, our countryside will literally be a people's paradise. Let us turn all farm villages into model socialist ones, where it is good to work and live, before handing them over to future generations." The relevant officials told him about the achievements and various good deeds the builders had made during the local land realignment project. The builders stayed at the fields day and night, with the resolve to complete the vast project by carrying soil on their backs if they lacked vehicles. They carried so much earth on their backs that their shoulders were bruised. A bulldozer driver never left his machine, despite it being as hot as an oven in summer and as cold as a refrigerator in winter, until he finally fell after finishing the last field. An ordinary woman, on behalf of her husband who had died at the land realignment site, ran and ran, carrying a jute bag filled with earth on the back. Tears welled in the leader's eyes as he listened thoughtfully to their story. He then said in an excited voice: "We really have good people. The people say that they have been blessed with the President and the General through generations, but I would like to say that we are blessed with good people. "With such good people we have nothing to fear. As long as we are with them we will never sway nor give up our revolution. The enemies are now wondering why our socialism has not collapsed. They thought it was doomed, because they have no understanding of how strong our people are." We are blessed with good people—his words were another manifestation of his warm love for and eternal trust in the people.

Ryu Kyong Hid



Party Official — a Man of Action and Patriot

Last May 24, General Secretary Kim Jong IL of the Workers' Party of Korea visited the Youth Goat Farm in Hamhung City, arriving via a steep ridge-way. He was hugely pleased with Hamhung people who had built a large goat farm in a relatively short span of time. Referring to Chief Secretary Ri Yong Thae of the Hamhung City Party Committee, who had devoted himself to the building of a farm during the 'Arduous March" he said: "Such a person, working hard to raise goats for the workers, is a true patriot. We need such people. Party officials must work in his way."

Current Struggle Brings Future Happiness

Several years ago leader Kim Jong IL read a document submitted by the Party Committee of South Hamgyong Province which expressed its desire to breed goats. He said it was a good proposal and encouraged the committee to set an example to the whole country. Hearing the response of the leader, Ri made up his mind to boldly pursue the project. But his heart was heavy. Natural calamities had hit the country every year and the US imperialists had persisted in their operations to isolate and stifle the DPRK, causing a great shortage of food and electricity and crippling the operation of factories. He asked himself where they could build a pasture in a city with no mountains, and how the goat breeding could be successfully established. His deep thought only increased his worries. He continued to give careful consideration to the project, wilting his ideas into his notebook only to cross them out and write new ideas in their place. At the time, leader Kim Jong IL was giving personal guidance across the country to improve the people's diet. The image of the leader floated vividly before Ri's eyes. Ri called a consultative meeting of officials to discuss the building of the goat farm. When Ri talked about Sangchang the atmosphere at the meeting became tense. In the past they had gone to great lengths to create a new materials base there, but they had reaped no reward. Some people even said that the mere mention of the word Sangchang sent a shiver down their spine. The officials looking at Ri were sceptical. They worried that the development of the Sangchang area during such hard times meant neglecting the reality of the country's situation. Ri earnestly appealed to them, "Of course, the present situation is grim. But those officials who refuse to put their back into solving the problems, worrying at their desks, who don't even try to do their bit, only ever making task plans are not officials of our revolutionary age. Let's boldly build a big goat farm in the Sangchang area!" His appeal gripped the hearts of the officials. The executive committee of the city Party committee decided to build a large goat farm and a pasture in the Sangehang area. The development project was undertaken as a mass drive, with the whole city playing its part.

An Able Planner of Operations and a Man of Action

Flocks of goat flowing like white clouds on undulating mountains, rows of cozy houses in the valleys through which crystal-clear water flows down, production buildings and cultural and welfare-service facilities abound... Looking round the farm, visitors are struck with admiration at Ri's wonderful organization skills and practical ability. He made 51 branch farms repay the efforts of the builders simultaneously. He grips the core and seed in every work, sets the priorities, carefully plans each stage and then pushes it forward meticulously. To build a farm among the mountains, roads would have to be broken and electricity secured. It was going to be tough. Ri climbed the far-off and steep Komsan mountain himself and planned his operations. In the surveying stage of the project he accompanied technical personnel along the proposed 60 km of roads and the 80-km section of power-transmission lines to help complete their plans. On one occasion he dug up frozen vegetable leaves out of the snow and chewed them to appease his hunger. When their plans were finished he called a meeting

to discuss and decide the measures needed to put them into practice. Then the construction management team assigned the work to city organs and industrial enterprises. He got the city Party committee and city government agencies to undertake the hardest tasks, and organized a youth shock brigade to push forward the project as rapidly as possible. He roused the masses to assist in the farm construction, sleeping and eating with builders in tents or dugouts. The road project, which required the removal of 300,000m3 of earth, the laying of 60,000m2 of stone, and the building of supporting walls and large and small bridges, was a tough task which ordinary people could scarcely imagine. They began the scheme equipped only with hammers, picks, shovels and levers and chisels, lacking machines and dynamite. The most difficult task was to break rocks. One day Ri saw a crack appear in a rock when he was putting out a campfire with water, and discovered the knack of removing rocks without dynamite. He made the method known to all worksites in order to speed up the project. When the roads were not completed, preventing the carrying of provisions, they ate grass root gruel not a few times, to allay their hunger. So many of them were exhausted that the project did not make rapid progress. He decided to overcome this difficulty through ideological strength and gave an official the task of preparing a radio broadcast entitled “The current struggle brings future happiness. All rise up as one to build a goat farm, confident of victory!”. He conducted political work as if on the frontline, pulling at the heartstrings of the builders. During breaks in the work, he himself called upon the builders to make new innovations in the construction of the farm with the spirit of defending the leader at the risk of life, saying that those hesitating in the face of difficulty had no right to live in the future. In response to his call, the builders raised themselves for a final effort. Thus they succeeded in completing the road and power-transmission line projects, which paved the way to the farm construction.

Despite the difficulties involved in carrying out the project, Ri demanded that they had to do everything at the highest level, to a standard that would still be perfect in the distant future. His high expectations were fully met. The construction of the farm, houses and welfare service facilities were pushed forward simultaneously. He had an

Ri Yong Thae (third form right) and other officials discussing how to develop their goat farm further still.

earnest discussion with the construction team and designers and proposed erecting wooden buildings of different types to suit the mountain conditions, the size of branch farms, their topo-graphical situation and the amount of sunlight. He looked round all the branch farms with them, one by one, pointing out building sites, types and sizes. When he discovered the slightest violation of the construction rules he had them corrected, even if it took ten or twenty times to get it right, to ensure the highest quality of construction. This was how a goat farm like a holiday resort appeared.

With Motherly Love

On the evening of the broadcast aimed at inspiring the workers, a young couple, both builders, mounted the stage. Ri had saved them from their hard life and made them a happy couple. They lifted their new-born baby and asked the chief secretary to name their child because he had treated the parent-less couple just like his own children, as leader Kim Jong IL had wanted. “Dear father, we sincerely wish that you name our daughter!” Ri and the audience felt a lump in their throats. He named the baby Jo Yu Sim, in the hope of pleasing leader Kim Jong IL by building a fine goat farm in the Sangchang area and producing plenty of milk. The audience expressed their approval with thunderous applause. It is Ri’s philosophy to love the people as a mother does her children and always strive to do more and better things for them. That was why Ri made up his mind to send young people and families, living hard lives as well as stout young men to the farm construction site to

I'll Live Up to His Expectation

August 9 last year was the day when I had the most unforgettable honour of my life. That day I met leader Kim Jong Ii, whom I had yearned for even in my dreams. Despite the searing mid-summer heat, he visited the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex. During his tour of the plant he stopped at the operation room of the refining furnace workshop where I worked .I explained the operation of the refining furnace. Listening to my explanation while looking round the room, he pointed at the television screen and asked what it was monitoring. I replied that it watches and operates the movement of molten iron. Very pleased, he said, "The refining furnace is a wonderful piece of equipment. This workshop was built not long ago, but it is well managed. It captivates my heart." After his visit to my room, I felt great pleasure at having realized the meeting I had craved. Soon, however, my elation changed into a desire for another meeting. To my surprise, my wish was realized that afternoon. Kim Jong IL called me to a consultative meeting of the senior officials of the complex. Having had the honour I had dreamed of on two occasions, I was not far-sighted enough to realize his intention in requesting my presence. I can now see that he called me to the meeting to give me the courage to shoulder the future of the complex and to develop me, a young man of raw intellect, into someone with great scientific and technical insight. At the meeting, he gave instructions for solving scientific and technical problems, key to increasing production, by using the exist2ing production facilities to full capacity.

Receiving his instructions, I felt my eyes being opened wide. It seemed to me that the future of our iron-manufacturing industry and the future of my motherland became clearer. I am 30 this year. By constantly polishing my technical skills and by completing my research into the manufacture of a new kind of iron, I am sure I will live up to his trust and expectation.

Kim Song Guk,
Kim Chaek Iron and
Steel Complex

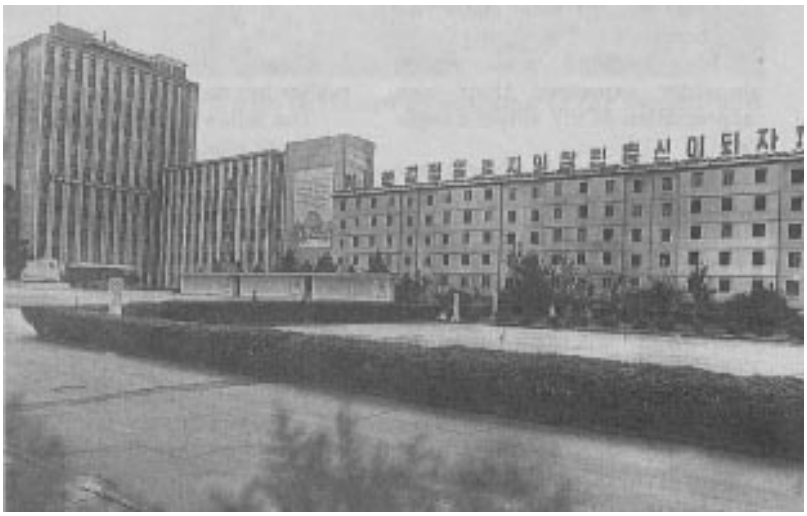
improve their living conditions. Scores of youth subworkteams consisting of parentless young people were organized for the project. Ri paid paternal attention to them. He built fine dormitories, established a part-time educational system for them and sent them musical instruments, even organizing a brass band. It was his inviolable rule to spend his holidays with them. One New Year's Day morning he had a pig, which had been at his home, killed. He told his wife to put the dishes prepared for the day into cardboard boxes. When his wife asked him why, Ri joked, "I would like to give them to the children I had without your knowledge." He meant the parent-less young people working in the Sangchang area. The youth subworkteam members, who had expected to spend the day alone, ran to meet him shouting for joy as his car appeared in the distance. He and the team ate the dishes he had brought in a festive atmosphere. Ri led their chorus "Where Are You Dear General?" with a longing heart. His revolutionary obligation and comradeship were the source of their enthusiasm, and it enabled them to build a large farm that now turns out much needed meat and milk products during the time of the 'Arduous March". Leader Kim Jong IL visited the farm and praised officials and builders for having constructed the best of farms. He named the farm area the Mirae (future) District, with hope and optimism for a strong and prosperous future for the country. In the new century, officials of the Workers' Party of Korea are putting into effect leader Kim Jong IL 's plan to build a powerful nation as men of action and ardent patriots like Ri Yong Thae.

Kim Sun Ryong

Kim IL Sung Higher Party School

Kim IL Sung Higher Party School is on the bank of the picturesque Taedong riverside. The school has played an important role in Party building and development of the revolution as well as the history of the Workers' Party of Korea. With President Kim IL Sung in attendance, the then Central Party School was inaugurated on June 1, Juche 35 (1946). At that time, more than ten teaching staff taught seven academic subjects to 80 students over two-month academic terms. Officials were at a loss at first on how to run the Party school. The President became principal of this school. He sometimes carefully examined the schedule and curriculum and occasionally gave lectures to the students. The school continued to operate even in the days of the Fatherland Liberation War (June 1950-July 1953). As well as education in loyalty to the Party, leader, fatherland and people, the students learned the Juche-oriented theory of Party building. They developed into officials with real ability who could solve any theoretical and practical problems arising in Party building and activities. Many heroes were produced there. They include Jo Ok Hui, former chairperson of Pyoksong County Women's Union. who died a heroic death in the war. They played a tangible role in the days of "Arduous March", filled with trying ordeals owing to the imperialists' isolation scheme to stifle the country. Graduates from the school were among the people of Jagang Province who turned the "Arduous March" into a cheerful advance with their strenuous efforts, and the competent officials who stood in the vanguard of important projects, including the construction of large saltworks, the first of their kind on the east coast, and the building of a dam for the Kumjingang Power Station. The school has been constantly strengthened throughout its history to meet the requirements of the developing situation in the country. It has now become a sanctuary for training Party cadres, with a real higher education system; a two-year degree and a four-year degree courses, a three-year research institute, a six-month incumbent workers' course, experienced faculty for scientific and technical education, and modern educational facilities. The school has produced more than a hundred holders of academic titles, including academicians, professors and doctors, and the graduates now number tens of thousands. In recognition of its achievements, the school was awarded the Order of Kim IL Sung twice, in 1972 and 1996.

Kim IL Sin.



The Picture of My Daughter

It happened one evening several days ago. Coming home from the office, my husband shouted, “Darling, there’s a letter from Mun Ah’s unit.” I rushed out of the kitchen, where I was preparing the supper. Until that moment, I had been concerned about my daughter because there had been no word from her even one year after she joined the People’s Army. Kyong Ah, our second daughter, in the middle of study, hurried out of her room. Taking the letter from my husband I opened the envelope in great haste. Kyong Ah cautioned me, saying, “Be careful, mother. There’s a picture, too.” She was right. It was a picture of Mun Ah, standing smiling in front of the military colour. She was already Private 1st Class. “Mun Ah,” I called, stroking her face in the picture. “ She looks better.”“ You see, the elder sister has just become a girl of dignity.” My husband and second daughter expressed their own appreciation of my eldest daughter.

Previously, I had doubted that Mun Ah, though our eldest daughter, could become as aware as the children of other families, because she was brought up with too much care. Even trivial worries had not left my mind on the day she went to her post. Last year, after graduating from the junior course of Jang Chol Gu Pyongyang University of Commerce, Mun Ah told me that she was going to join the People’s Army. I was greatly surprised, but on the other hand thought her plan laudable. I had regretted having no son and could not help but be envious when I saw the children of other families joining the army. You have now grown up enough to read my mind, I thought with great pride. The night before she left for her post, I asked her with what resolve she was going to join the army. Holding my hand tightly she said, “Mother, I want you to sing a song to congratulate me on my joining the army, your favourite song, “The news of my son’s becoming a hero has come like a dream. In the evening of the mountain village Where a thin mist is rising A mother got the news Of her son’s becoming a hero. She was at a loss to know what to do, But only laughed and shed

tears, Wondering if it was only a dream…Singing the song I came to realize her resolve,

The following day, however, I was once again full of minor worries as I walked out of my home with my uniformed daughter ahead of me.” My dear, are you sure,” I had hardly finished my words when she replied with a smile, “You know, mother, ours is the era of the army-first policy. I think I, your eldest daughter, should defend the post my father, disabled soldier, once did.” With this she left home. My recollection was interrupted by the voice of Kyong Ah reading the letter out loud:” Dear Mother and Father,

The supreme commander Kim Jong IL , who is always taking parental care of us soldiers, on his recent on-the-spot guidance to the People’s Army units gave the instruction that ‘you should make sure that the soldiers have their own individual and other pictures taken. It is particularly necessary for every soldier to have two individual pictures taken, so that he or she can keep one for himself or herself and send the other to his or her parents, who would be pleased to see photographs of their children.’ This is how we send to you this picture of your daughter. Platoon leader Ju Yong Sim” It is a matter of course that parents long to see children who have left home to defend their country. I, however, never suspected that the supreme commander, who is busy taking care of national affairs, big and small, would take such a benevolent measure, reading the mind of us mothers. That night my family could not get to sleep. The picture we received so unexpectedly was small in size, but of such great significance. I felt her post, far away from home, was near and dear to me now. I cannot forget that night. It was impossible for me to sleep, my mind churning with the thought that those letters containing such significant pictures were still being delivered to soldiers’ homes across the country.

Ryu Hui

The Value of Life

On one mid-June day, my wife was seriously burnt on the lower half of her body and taken to Pyongyang People's Hospital No. 2. I heard the news at my factory, and was about to leave for the hospital when a car came up to me and stopped. I saw Yun Su Won, the factory's Party committee secretary, in the car. He urged me to get in and go to the hospital with him. I was moved and felt a calmness settling in me. On arrival at the hospital I saw the doctors and nurses doing their best to save my wife. Every possible measure had already been taken. The secretary did not return home until late in the evening, staying to attend the doctors' consultation. I heard later that my factory had an informal meeting that evening. A campaign of the whole factory was commenced to save the wife of an ordinary worker. Many officials immediately set out on journeys to get medicine. At the time, life in our country was not easy, but the employees did not hesitate to offer any help they could to my wife. People visited her at the hospital almost every day, bringing tonics, special dishes, fruit and drinks. I cannot forget the day when my wife was operated on for a skin graft. Early that morning, management at the factory had a meeting. 'Today they are performing a skin graft on her. Of course, they will do their utmost, but we must go and see if there is anything we can do for her. She is the wife of our revolutionary comrade," the Party secretary appealed. A coach carrying the managers made its way to the hospital. No sooner had they approached the operating theatre than another bus entered the hospital. Out stepped workers from my factory. "Why didn't you ask us to come with you? We are also her revolutionary comrades," they protested. Crowds of people gathered in front of the theatre. Eighty of my comrades donated pieces of their skin to my wife. She and I were choked with gratitude. I made a pledge to dedicate my all to my comrades, and to my benevolent country. Their concern and sacrifice taught me the value of life. Mun Ki Ryop, resident at Neighbourhood Unit No. 3, Sokjon-dong, Hyonglesan District, Pyongyang

Mun Ki Ryop's sick wife is visited by workers of the factory and her neighbours.

Korean Proverbs

Strong grass is proved by a swift wind.
This means indomitable will and integrity become more pronounced after going through trials.

One's own feet are better than one's dutiful son.
This means that walking on one's own feet is far better than going supported by one's dutiful son.

Honesty is a streasure in one's lifetime.
This means that for man, integrity is very precious.

The Staircase of Life

Some time ago, I visited Kim Yong Suk at her apartment in Neighbourhood Unit 63, Sohungdong, Moranbong District, Pyongyang. After welcoming me, she brought a small box and opened it. I saw some certificates of housing-use in it, the papers used to show legal entitlement to use a given property in Korea. I was looking at them one by one when she handed me a sheet of paper from the box which had been folded four times. It looked quite old. The faded paper showed the designs of the inside and outside of a house. I looked at the woman questioningly. She said, 'This is the layout of my first house. At that time there were no certificates for use of houses. So I drew this when I left the house." Then she told me a story.

One autumn day, when Yong Suk was 19 years old, she was returning from working in the fields. At the time she was living in somebody else's house. The chairman of the village's WPK cell, who had been harvesting the rice with her all day, asked her to follow him. Though doubting the reason, she went with him until they came to a new dwelling house. The chairman asked her to go in and see how she liked it. She did not understand what he meant, and hesitated for a moment. The chairman opened the door and called out, 'The hostess has come." A number of people, who seemed to have been talking in the house, welcomed her in. She was still bewildered. An elderly man called Jang, who had been a farmhand like her parents before liberation (August 15, 1945), said to her, 'This is your house, Yong Suk. Your parents had badly wanted to have their own house." Tears welled in his eyes as he spoke. Yong Suk could not believe him. She looked around the room. It was cosy and simply furnished, and a new quilt was placed on the wardrobe. In the kitchen there were rice pots, jars, bowls and a chopping board, everything she needed to cook there and then. She burst into tears. That night she lay awake, unable to sleep. She was born in a farmhand's room at a landowner's house in Inbok-ri, Kangryong County, South Hwanghae Province. She lost her father when she was three. Her mother fell ill after the long years of toil in the landowner's employment. He drove the mother and daughter out of his house one winter day, complaining that they consumed his food without doing anything for it. That evening the mother died outdoors. From that day until liberation, bridges formed the roof of her home and straw bags her quilt. This had been her life. She lived in the new house provided by the country after liberation for four years and eight months. After marriage, she settled in Pyongyang. The government allotted the newly-married couple a single-storeyed house at Kneson-dong, at the foot of Moran Hill, as their new home. In this house they had a son and a daughter. With the passage of time, the country's strength grew. Many new apartment buildings were built in different parts of the city. In Juche 73 (1984) her family moved to newly-built apartment in Munsu Street. It had a living room, a bed room, a kitchen, a parlour, a bathroom, a lavatory and a storeroom. When An Sang Thaek Street was created at the foot of Moran Hill, they once again had the chance to move to new apartment. So they moved to a modern three-roomed apartment, at the place where they had made their home 22 years before. Carrying in the furniture and household items, which were by now far greater in number, Yong Suk recalled the day when she was given the first home of her own, and the day they had first moved to the Moran Hill area. She said, "The day we moved in, my husband said that he was extremely grateful to the country for its support when he had done nothing worth mentioning for the country. He had been a humble office worker all his adult life. As it had done before to countless others, the country gave this apartment to us free of charge." Her eyes were almost wet. She and her husband are now living on their pensions with their son, a student at Pyongyang University of Mechanical Engineering, and daughter-in-law, a seamstress at a clothing factory, and their grandson. Housing-use certificates are to be seen at every household in the country. They represent the staircase of life of all the citizens in the country, irrespective of their social positions or their careers. Ryn Kyong Hui

Kim Yong Suk's family lead a happy life in their modern flat.

The Past and Present of the Wang Clan

Wang Rok Jin (middle) at the tomb of King Wang Kon.

The tomb of Wang Kon, the founder-king of Koryo, lies at the foot of Mt. Songak, a short distance from Kaesong city, where I was born. The tomb and its annexes are laid out over an area of 5.5 hectares, with the tomb alone covering an area of 2.5 hectares. The magnificent tomb is treble-terraced, and it has stone sculptures of well-known civil officials and military officers who displayed their resourcefulness and bravery in unifying three states to establish Koryo, a powerful state (early tenth century - late 14th century).

The shrine features a portrait of Wang Kon and several paintings showing the history of Koryo. In front of the entrance to the tomb stands the monument to the tomb with an inscription "the Monument to the Renovated Tomb of King Wang Kon, the Founder of Koryo" written by President Kim IL Sung. The tomb was renovated in January Juche 83 (1994) on the lll7th birthday of the king. The entrance itself is a fine example of the architecture of that period. Whenever I visit the magnificently reconstructed tomb at this old, picturesque place, I, as the 32nd-generation of the family with the same surname as King Wang Kon, feel a lump in my throat and a tremendous sense of gratitude. In retrospect, the Koryo dynasty, which existed for 475 years, was ruined by the treachery of Ri Song Gye, and the members of the Wang clan, had to suffer unprecedented oppression in the aftermath. Some of them killed themselves or were killed, while others who had a narrow escape from death changed or concealed their surname and fled to remote, uninhabited places. Since then the tomb, which had previously been visited by every king in February and June each year, became dilapidated. What is worse, foreign invaders dug it up and took away its valuable relics. With the passage of hundreds of years, some of the Wang clan made their way back to Kaesong. During that period full of ups and downs, the tomb remained untended and desolate. The descendants of the king could not hold a proper memorial service for him. When Kaesong was liberated from US colonial rule and put under the care of the people's government, the work of finding and preserving relics and remains from the period of Koryo was conducted with great support from the state, and the Kaesong History Museum was established in the city. At the same time, we descendants of Wang Kon came to lead a new life. When I was allowed to enter Songdo University of Education, my father said, with tears of joy in his eyes, that our clan now had a university student, too. I now work as the director of the Kaesong rural building materials supply agency. My wife and daughter, both graduates of Kang Kon University of Medicine, are employed by the public health service, and my son serves in the army. Watching our growth and development, my father would often say that our predecessors could never have imagined we would enjoy such a happy life.

Even we, however, never (To be continued on page 31)

The Wang's clan register.

Men of Strong Faith Say

One year has already passed since the 63 former unconverted long-term prisoners came over to the north from the south. On the anniversary, a Korea Today reporter met some of them. Before are some of their recollections.

The Country Is Worth More Than My life

As I travelled a miserable course through life under Japanese imperialist colonial rule, I perceived the value of the country to the marrow of my bone.I was once beaten down by a Japanese teacher on the "charge" of paying no tuition fee; my mother, carrying me home on her back, shed streams of tears. My sisters' faces were all pale and yellow because of hunger. Even in such a deplorable situation, my parents and elder sister laboured at a gravel-pit from early morning to late evening in order to provide an education for me. They literally worked their fingers to the bones. Such a situation made me know the world

earlier than other children and understand the philosophical principle that a member of a stateless nation is little better than a dog in a house of grief.

I decided I could not allow colonial slavery to be imposed on me again. So I chose the road of fighting against the American occupiers in the south, and later readily joined the work for national reunification.

The 39 years in prison confirmed my principle that my country is worth more to me than my own life.

Han Jang Ho

The Day One Year Ago

If you go rtght now all at once, What can I do with my missing you?
You should go, anyhow.

If you go right now all at once, What can I do with my missing you?
You should go, anyhow, with light steps
May they lead to reunification.

This is part of a congratulatory poem to me from Ri Jong U, a Korean-American poet in Washington DC. Last year I received a lot of congratulatory banners, souvenirs, congratulatory messages and letters from south Korea and abroad.

I couldn't believe my ears when I heard on the radio about the clause on the return of unconverted long-term prisoners in the North-South Joint Declaration on June 15 last year. The five bf us at the "House of Reunification" were all dumbfounded. When we came back to our senses we hugged one another with tearful eyes.

With his Granddaughter.

Journalists, members of democratic organizations, university professors and even housewives offered us heart-felt congratulations on our return to the north. Telegrams and telephone calls were unceasing. Having had such luck, I felt sorry for my dead comrades, and I could not get to sleep all night.

That day, the compatriots in the south and overseas experienced a delightful moment when the wall of mistrust within the nation was demolished like sand.

Kim Tong Gi

Birthday Dinner

April 3 was my 70th birthday. As it was my first birthday since I came back to the north, my wife and children were busy making preparations for a festive dinner, saying it was a significant event for the family. But I dissuaded them, asking them how I could enjoy my birthday when the country was still in difficulty. Unexpectedly, leader Kim Jong IL arranged a dinner to celebrate my birthday. The table was covered with all kinds of delicacies and special dishes. I sat down amidst the warmth and affection of my comrades, family members and relatives. I intended to express my thankfulness, but the emotion of the event prevented me. My heart was carried away by the sudden excitement and my eyes were running with tears. I could only repeat broken words of gratitude. The country had given me a luxury apartment and ensured that my son, a Party worker who had been working in a provincial town, was moved into my apartment for fear I should feel lonely. That kind of warm care ensures that I have no inconvenience in life. Now I even received a wonderful birthday table. All those present were choking with emotion. I swore to myself that I would always remain a true son of the nation.

Yang Jong Ho

Honeymoon

Thirty-seven years ago when I got married, some of my friends sent me letters asking me to take my honeymoon at their homes.

Kim Yong Su (third from left)with his family members.

My wife seemed anxious to go on a honeymoon. But everybody was busy at the time, so I coujd not make a decision. One day I promised my wife that we would go together to my friends' after fulfilling the year's task. But I could not keep the promise because I took up the struggle for national reunification. The day I left my home, I held my wife by the hand and promised again to have a honeymoon, touring all the scenic spots in the country, after national reunification. Now back in the north, I finally had my honeymoon, to the famous mountain of Myohyang. Travelling with my wife on the bus, I felt like a youth in his twenties.

Kim Yong Su

To See the Day of Reunification

Last year, just before my return to the north, I met some journalists from CBS, EBS, Pusan Ilbo and other media organizations in the south. They asked me why I was going to the north, where I had no relatives. They suggested that I spend the rest of my life with the people of my home village.

I gave them this answer: The north of the Republic has a social system which I have longed for all Kang Tong Gun with his family and relative. my life. It was only because I longed for that system that I was found 'guilty", and became disabled without an arm. I wish to live in the north before it is too late. The experience I have had since I entered the embrace of the DPRK has been memorable. But I am remorseful. I have not done enough for the country's reunification. This guilty conscience makes me more determined to live a healthy and long life so that I can see the day of reunification. So I pay special attention to my health.

Kang Tong Gun with his family and relative.

Every morning I tell myself that the day of reunion of the Korean compatriots in the north, south and overseas is coming nearer and nearer.

Kang Tong Gun

From Kim IL Sung's Reminiscences "With the Century"

Formation of the International Allied Forces

(Continued from the previous issue) What situation would be created if the war between the United States and Japan were still continuing after the war between the Soviet Union and Germany ended? Our common opinion was that the Soviet Union would then participate in the war against Japan. Although the Soviet Union had concluded a neutrality pact with Japan, it had to make thoroughgoing preparations for war against that country in case of an emergency. Realizing an alliance with the international anti-Japanese forces was an important policy pursued by the Soviet Union in its preparations for this war.

Thanks to the congruence of the political and military requirements of the Comintern and the Soviet Union itself with our strategic plan, the formation of the IAF was able to proceed comparatively smoothly.

Around mid-July 1942 we held a final discussion on the alliance of the armed forces of Korea, China and the Soviet Union with the military cadres of the Soviet Union and China, and made a decision to establish the IAF on the precondition that the identity of the KPRA and the NAJAA would be preserved.

On July 22, 1942 I met General Apanasenko, Commander of the Soviet Far East Forces, together with Zhou Bao-zhong and Zhang Shou-jian. With a roundish oval face and sharp eyes, he was a man of sturdy physique and a veteran general in his fifties. Shaking hands with me, he said he was pleased to meet the Young General of the Korean guerrilla army. In the office of the Commander we also exchanged greetings with Lieutenant General Nichev, Chief of Staff. Apanasenko said that the formation of the IAF through the incorporation of the revolutionary armed forces of the Soviet Union, China and Korea would be of great importance not only for the revolutionary struggles of Korea and China, but also for the security of the Soviet Union and its operations against Japan. Then he expressed his confidence that the IAF would fulfil their historic mission successfully. He went on that the IAF, when formed, would play an important role in training a large number of military cadres needed for the national revolutionary wars in Korea and China, and that the Korean and Chinese units of these forces would constitute a decisive force for the liberation of Korea and Manchuria. That day Apanasenko reiterated the need to make full preparations to cope with a war at any time, by heightening the intensity of the IAF's training and improving its quality. He guided us to a room where a large operations map was hanging on the wall. He said he would like to know about the guerrilla movement conducted by the KPRA and the NAJAA as well as about our plans for future operations, and asked us to explain the military and political situation in Manchuria and Korea. Zhou Bao-zhong stepped towards the operations map and summed up the activities of the 2nd Route Army of the NAJAA. He also expressed his views with regard to the future operations for the liberation of Northeast China. At that time I explained the activities of the KPRA and the 1st Route Army of the NAJAA and their actual situation, as well as making clear the military and political problems that had to be taken into consideration without fail in order to annihilate the Japanese imperialists and liberate Korea. Apanasenko asked for a detailed explanation of the deployment of the Japanese troops in Korea, the situation of the anti-Japanese forces in Korea itself and of the prospects of their development, as well as of the possibility of joint operations with the Soviet Union. I gave him detailed information on these points.

Zhang Shou-jian explained the situation of the 3rd Route Army.

Apanasenko was kept comparatively well-informed of the military situation in northern Manchuria. It was agreed, through our discussion with Apanasenko, that the Soviet side would provide various kinds of weapons and military equipment, clothes, provisions and other supplies for the TAF. Moreover, we decided to call the allied forces the Independent 88th Brigade of the Soviet Far East Forces formally and agreed on calling them Infantry Special Brigade 8461 outside the ranks.

We organized the IAF on a brigade scale on the principle of reduced formation, to keep their existence and activities secret and disguise them thoroughly.

I was in command of the 1st Contingent, com

posed of the KPRA and the 1st Route Army of the NAJAA. This contingent was made up mainly of the Korean section of the IAF. In those days we symbolically fixed the military ranks of the military and political cadres of the KPRA, lower than the actual ones, to protect their personal safety from the espionage and subversive activities of the enemy. Simultaneously with the formation of the IAF, we all gathered at Camp North.

As a result of the organization of the allied forces, the military and political situations in the Far East region changed in favour of the world revolution.

First of all, the Soviet Union benefited greatly from this. The Soviet Union secured military and political forces capable of coping with the aggressive moves of Japan on its own initiative, and came to have new special units exclusively serving the military operations in Northeast China and Korea.

The existence of the IAF also created favourable conditions and circumstances for the Korean and Chinese revolutions. Because it was to act in concert with the Soviet Far East Forces, the KPRA was able to have, within the framework of regular armed forces, the ability as well as the equipment to carry out the most up-to-date operations needed for liberating the country. Moreover, we could make adequate military and political preparations and acquire real power, all needed for accomplishing the task of national liberation on our own, in the Soviet Union until a great event took place. I met Apanasenko again at the Headquarters of the LAF after their formation. At that time he came to Camp North in the company of the military commissar and other personnel of the general staff, as well as with personnel of the political and supply departments. The same day, the LAF held a parade. The Korean Contingent stood in the van of the parading ranks. This contingent was good at marching. That day's function could be called a kind of celebration in honour of the birth of the LAF. In company with Apanasenko, we also took part in a luncheon. Apanasenko told us about his past life that very day. He was a veteran fighter who, following the October Revolution, had fought against the White army to defend the Soviet power as well as against the German occupation army. During the Civil War he was already in command of a cavalry division. At one time he was Commander of the Central Asian Military District, before he became Commander of the Far East Forces. Ever since the early days of the Far East Forces, the Soviet authorities had attached great importance to them. All the commanders of these forces were renowned men of real ability. Many of the successive Ministers of Defence and high-ranking military cadres of the Soviet Union hailed from these forces. At the beginning of 1943, Apanasenko was transferred to the post of Deputy Commander of the Yoronezh front, one of the most important fronts during the war between the Soviet Union and Germany. In the summer of that year he fell in action. At the news of his death, all the officers and men of the IAF gathered and looked back in grief, upon the memory of this man who had given support and help to the Korean and Chinese communists. The love of communists for their comrades-in-arms transcends nationality. In those days we regarded the crisis of the Soviet people as our own national crisis. I still remember how a large number of officers and men from the KPRA and the NAJAA petitioned to be allowed to go to the western front when the Soviet army was in a dire situation there. Nevertheless, each time the Comintern and the Soviet authorities turned down their petition, saying that these soldiers had an important historic task to liberate their own countries. We ardently defended and valued the Soviet Union, the citadel of socialism and our only bastion. At that time all communists thought that if the Soviet Union collapsed, socialism would also be ruined and it would be impossible to defend world peace.

A small unit of the IAF.

The biographical dictionaries of many countries claim that I took part in the fierce battle to defend Stalingrad, commanding a large unit composed of Koreans, and was awarded the Order of the Red Flag for my exploits in that battle. Some articles claim that my unit was active in the first line in the operation to capture Berlin. I was awarded the Order of the Red Flag from the Soviet Government, but I did not take part either in the Battle of Stalingrad or in the capture of Berlin. I don't know where the authors of the dictionaries got such materials. But anyway, it is true that those articles reflect something of the climate in the training base, seething with enthusiasm to join the war. The existence of the IAF struck terror into the hearts of the Japanese imperialists who were afraid of the alliance between the armed forces of Korea, the Soviet Union and China. Conversely, it gave unbounded confidence to our people. The enemy produced numerous materials with regard to the fact that the great leader set up a training base in the Soviet Union and made preparations for the final operations against Japan. They read in part:"Kim IL Sung's movements: "Kim IL Sung, now staying in the Soviet Union, left Khabarovsk last summer and went to Yanan. There he met such leaders of the CPC as Mao Ze-dong, He Long and Kang Sheng, and held a number of discussions with them on the cooperation between the Anny of the CPC and the Anti-Japanese Allied Army, before and after the outbreak of the war between Japan and the Soviet Union, as well as on the future activities of the Anti-Japanese Allied Army. Then he met a Korean CPC member in the vicinity of Yanan, and they exchanged opinions on various matters.

"Towards the end of last year, Kim IL Sung returned to the Soviet Union from Yanan by air. He is now in the neighbourhood of Khabarovsk and devoting himself to intelligence and ideological work regarding Manchuria and Korea. Moreover, it is said that he has admitted about 300 people, including Korean and Chinese communist bandits, and Korean and Manchurian recalcitrants and captives who had entered the Soviet Union, to the training camp in the vicinity of Khabarovsk and, under the guidance and with the help of the Khabarovsk Red Army, is giving training and education to them so that they will be able to enter Manchuria all together before and after the beginning of the war between Japan and the Soviet Union, and early out the task of harassing the rear of the Japanese army." (Information sent by the chief of the Namyang police station to the chief of the police department of North Hamgyong Province, February 21, Showa 19 (1944).)"Kim IL Sung is said to be in Yanan now and sending troops to Rehe Province. Moreover, there are four divisions formed entirely of Koreans in Nikolayevski (in the Maritiine Province of Siberia). When a war breaks out between Japan and the Soviet Union, these troops will land in the area of north Korea as a death-del:ying corps or descend on Korea by parachute." (A file of cases (4) on seditious actions for harassing the rear and staging an armed uprising during the Great East Asia War, centring around grad. uates of Kyongsong University, Kowon police station, Showa 20 (1945).)"It seems that a man who came back across Siberia has said that there is an encampment four kilometres in circumference in one place in Siberia, and that there is a Korean flag flying there, and that he has seen Korean soldiers guarding it." (Monthly Report by the Special Political Police, p. 79, Security Police Bureau, Ministry of the Interior, Showa 19 (1944).) The news of the formation of the IAF exerted a favourable influence on the anti-Japanese patriotic forces fighting in Northeast China. Many times the soldiers of the NAJAA in Manchuria crossed the river and joined the allied forces in groups of two or three. Sometimes soldiers of the puppet Manchukuo army rose in revolt against the officers and joined the allied forces. Once, I cannot remember whether it was before or after the organization of the allied forces, one company of a regiment of the puppet Manchukuo army stationed in Donganzhen, Raohe County, executed their commander and Japanese officers, and crossed the Ussuri River in a wooden boat bringing with them a large number of rifles, machine-guns, grenade throwers and other weapons. We warmly welcomed them and enlisted them. Following the formation of the IAF, we intensifled combat and political training, and accelerated preparations for our operations against Japan. The most important task confronting us in those days was to consolidate the ranks of the KPRA politically and militarily. It can be said that the fundamental principles of military operations are identical for any kind of war, be it an ancient war, a mediaeval war or a modern war. What is important is how to have a command of the means of war as they develop and how to organize cooperation and joint operations between various services and arms. We made serious efforts to master modern tactics, and our efforts were redoubled following the formation of the IAF. The capability of the soldiers of the KPRA for using modern tactics freely was raised to a considerable level through training and studying at the training base. At the same time as perfecting the guerrilla tactics which they had practised on the wide plateau around Mt. Paektu, they familiarized themselves with modern tactics to meet the requirements of a regular army. By doing so, they admirably played their political and military roles as the main force of the Korean revolution. The Soviet Far East Forces also made great efforts for the rapid improvement of the fighting efficiency of the LAF.

Around mid-November 1942, Apanasenko orgnized

a military exercise of a brigade of the Soviet Far East Forces stationed in the south, and invited the leading commanders of the allied forces to inspect it. That day we went from Khabarovsk to that brigade in an armoured train. On the following day, the brigade held a winter exercise. A large number of armed forces including four infantry battalions as well as tank, artillery, mortar, signal and anti-tank gun battalions took part in the exercise. It was the military exercise of a large scale we had ever seen, so it aroused our curiosity and interest. The task given to the brigade was to attack and annihilate the enemy on a hill and capture the hill. The attack, which started at noon, was over only at four o'clock in the afternoon. In Khabarovsk we also inspected a parade of the units of the Far East Forces. I quite envied the various kinds of modern military equipment and combat material that had been mobilized for the military exercises and parade. "When shall we be able to have such a modernized army?" This is what I thought of most during my inspection of the military exercises and parade. My resolve to build a regular army immediately after liberating the country was strengthened during my stay at the training base in the Far East region. Thanks to the serious efforts of and cooperation between the military commanders of Korea, the Soviet Union and China, the LAF were able to develop, in a short time, into armed forces capable of coping with modern warfare. Even when the Soviet Union badly needed the strength of another single regiment or a single battalion because of the extremely difficult situation at the front, it never touched the allied forces, but helped them so that they could make full preparations for the showdown against the Japanese imperialists. The formation and development of the IAF in the Soviet Far East region served as a good model for uniting the resistance forces of Czechoslovakia and Poland in Europe. The news of the dissolution of the Comintern reached the training base in May 1943, when we were active in the Soviet Union following the formation of the IAF. People at the base wondered why the Comintern, which had existed for over 20 years as the leading organ of the world revolution, had been dissolved in the middle of the Second World War, when international solidarity and cooperation were most urgent for a showdown against fascism. It was in 1919 that Lenin organized the Coin-intern. I think there were two reasons for its dissolution: One was that, while the Comintern was leading the world revolution, in various countries communist parties and revolutionary forces grew so strong that they were able to promote revolution in theii own countries independently in accordance witi their own line and relying on their own efforts, ever without its centralist leadership and involvement. Another reason was that the existence of thE Comintern was an obstacle to realizing a more extensive, worldwide anti-fascist alliance. The anti-fascist alliance during the Second World War was a new aspect which transcended differences in ideas and social systems. The stand which transcended ideas and systems and was taken by the countries forming the alliance in the confrontation with fas. cism made possible the alliance between the Soviet Union, a socialist country, and the United States, Britain and France, capitalist countries, as well as the cooperation between communists and bourgeois Right-wing politicians. This situation made them reconsider the existence of the Comintern, the mission of which was to oppose imperialism and to communize the world. We admitted that the dissolution of the Coin-intern was an opportune measure which fully conformed with the requirements of the international commumat movement and the development of the situation prevailing at that time. We felt great pride in the fact that, from the outset of our struggle, we had done everything independently at every revolutionary stage, adopting our own strategy and tactics and building the revolutionary force by our own efforts instead -of by relying on the strength or line of others. The dissolution of the Comintern, however, did not imply the demise of international solidarity and cooperation among communists. We continued to adhere to the independence of our activities within the tAP, but we still strengthened solidarity and cooperation with our foreign friends as ever. The strenuous efforts exerted by the Korean communists for the organization, strengthening and development of the tAP serve as a model of correct combination of two principles—the principle of the independence and identity of each country and that of international solidarity and cooperation in the revolutionary struggle. The success and experience gained in those days when we organized and strengthened the lAP became a valuable asset for us in keeping and expanding the united front with the socialist countries and other international revolutionary forces maintaining the Juche stand in the complex political situation following the war, not to speak of the days ~f final showdown to annihilate the Japanese imperialists. ***From Chapter 23 "In Alliance With the international Anti-Imperialist Forces," Part 1 'The Anti-Japanese Revolution"***

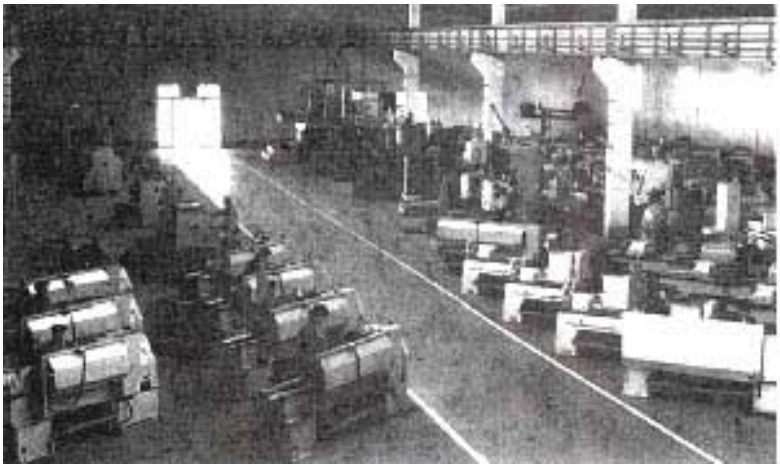
Songchongang Electric Appliances Factory

In April leader Kim Jong IL inspected several factories and enterprises in Hamhung city, including the Songehongang Electric Appliances Factory. Looking round several different parts of the factory, the leader praised the employees who, though in the toughest period of the "Arduous March", when it was difficult to manufacture even a single bolt properly, managed to produce not only electric motors, but also many different generators necessary for the construction of medium and small power stations. Their efforts made a remarkable contribution to solving the nation's electricity problem. On this significant day the officials and workers of the factory looked back emotionally upon the unforgettable recent period.

At the time, their factory, like others, suffered great difficulties in production, lacking materials and even provisions. They refused to give up, however, and explored untapped internal reserves to make up for the complete lack of steel materials. As a result, the sound of hammering continued to come from the forging machine despite its poor condition, and other machinery, including a 1.6-metre turning lathe and a 200-mm boring machine, resumed operation one by one.

Priority was given to processing the parts of electric motors, followed by their assembly. The factory also took responsibility for manufacturing generators needed by medium and small power stations which were under construction across the city. Producing generators was no easy task for the workers at the factory because they had no relevant experience and lacked processing capacity and materials. Together with technicians, however, they pooled their efforts to achieve by themselves one thing after another, from designing and other technical preparations to processing and assembly. When

serious technical problems arose in making copper wire to be wound on stators of the generators, experienced workers hit upon the original idea of cutting thin copper sheets with the roller cutter. They ultimately succeeded in assembling the first generator, to which they gave the name " Self-Reliance". One the day of his personal inspection of the factory leader Kim Jong IL gave the workers the



Part of a mid-sized motor workshop.

Progress in Poultry Farming

Not long ago, a Korea Today staff reporter interviewed Kim Jong Man, an official at the secretariat of the Babinet of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, concerning the final, state of the project of modernizing chicken farms, part of efforts to improve the diet of Pyongyang citizens.

Question: Recently, projects to further enrich the life of the people have been under way across the country. Modernizing the chicken farms is part of this programme, isn't it?

Answer: You're right. When the work o~ five farms in the capital city is completed, their operation will be easier and production capacity will increase, making it possible to supply increased quantities of eggs and meat. The material and technical foundations of the national poultry industry will become more solid, too.

Q: I've got the impression that the whole of the capital city is seething with the endeavour to upgrade the chicken farms. Which ones are being reconstructed?

A: There are five of them; Mangyongdae, Hadang, Sopho, Ryongsong and Sungho chicken farms. As you know, these have helped to improve the diet of the citizens in no small measure in

the past. During the recent hard times, however, they experienced great difficulty in maintaining production.

The state's recent decision to refashion and modernize the farms is aimed at improving the standard of living of the people.

Q: Could you give me more details of the intention underlying the reconstruction of the

• chicken farms and the method of the undertaking?

& The state intends to make sure that the work of raising the standard of people's diet is done in such a way that they can quickly benefit from it.

The problem was that the existing equipment of the farms was not capable of meeting the demands of the people.

To carry out the project, we regarded all aspects to be of equal importance. We pushed forward the readjustment of inefficient methods and layout in line with the operating conditions of the farms, manufactured necessary equipment on the basis of new designs and installed other modem equipment, while maintaining the output of the existing facilities.

Q: It must have been difficult to complete this enormous undertaking in such a short period of time.

A: Right. We were allowed less than half a year to do it. We had to build 160 new pens, the feed base had to be expanded to allow for an increase in the production of eggs and meat, and the equipment had to be repaired. Landscaping around the farms was conducted simultaneously.

We resorted to a three-pronged approach to push forward with all the work at the same time. The state increased its investment in the project and, motivated by this, many citizens turned out to help complete the work.

When workers at the Moran-bong Automation Instrument Factory heard that the builders did not have enough small bolts and other parts, they regarded the matter as a problem of their own and immediately produced and sent the necessary parts. When it became an issue to repair and fix the hen-cotes, the citizens took the work upon themselves, saying that they could do the job because it would not require a high level of skill. They carried out the task in a short space of time. We were also aided by many people who, after their day's work, hurried to the reconstruction sites to spend the night helping the builders with their work.

The reconstruction of the farms was, in reality, voluntary work done by both the builders and helpers. They were unanimous in saying, "We want to become creators of happiness before enjoying it. We will be able to enjoy greater happiness only when there is tangible evidence of our contribution to making the country powerful

and prosperous."

Worthwhile Work

In recent years Pyongyang Thermal-Power Complex has put great effort into fish farming. Last year alone it bred catfish in large quantities and did much to improving its employees' diet life.

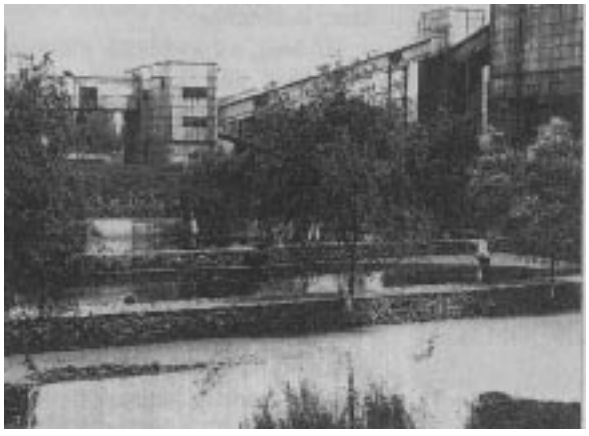
During the "Arduous March", officials at the complex racked their brains to find an efficient method of securing the subsistence of its employees, implementing a number of positive measures.

Three years ago the complex began fish farming on a large scale, in line with the state's intention of mass-breeding catfish everywhere there are hot springs and hog water in order to further enrich the people's diet.

Before anything else, the complex had to build a spawning ground, which was to use the spent water from the power station. The officials and workers managed to obtain materials such as cement, iron sheeting and welding Having no experience, the breeders faced many technical Rods by using untapped internal reserves. As a result, they completed the construction of a 1,000 square-metre catfish spawning ground in a short space of time.

They then obtained spawning catfish and directed their efforts towards breeding them.

completed the construction



A view of the catfish ponds.

problems in making the spawn hatch. Never disheartened, they studied relevant technical books and visited research institutes for help, finally mastering the job.

They then concentrated their efforts on the construction of a fattening pond. A large quantity of stones were brought in to construct an embankment around the pond, which is thousands of metres in circumference, and trenches to irrigate and drain away water were dug. Willow-trees were planted in the vicinity of the pond in order to create an attractive environment.

Well aware of the importance of feed in catfish breeding, the complex paid close attention to solving this problem. After painstaking research, they succeeded in making a variety of feed from protein grass. In addition, they created another feed base where they multiply varieties of microorganisms including daphnia and built a new tubifex breeding ground.

Visitors cannot help but admire the sight of the ponds all seething with catfish.

Introduction measures are taken in good time for the spawning catfish.

"Whether people benefit from the catfish or not depends greatly on the standard of our work. I'm now confident that we can produce many more catfish if we breed them in a proper scientific and technical way," said a girl breeder.

Thanks to their effort, the production of catfish is on the increase, and the employees of the complex are delighted to be frequently supplied with fresh fish.

Ryu Chol

Agriculture Hard Hit By Drought

Korea Today staff reporter Song Thae Jun recently interviewed Vice Director Kim Hyok Jin of the Ministry of Agriculture in connection with this year's drought-hit farming situation.

Question: Prior to asking about the current farming situation, I want to know about the long spell of drought that affected our country earlier this year.

Answer: Okay. I think that will help readers understand the farming situation.

The drought lasted for over 100 days from early March to mid-June. by global warming.

Last winter recorded the lowest temperatures in 50 years, and the cold spell was the longest in 100 years.

This winter recorded the lowest temperatures in 50 years, and the cold spell was the longest in 100 years.

You can say that the severe cold brought about this year's drought.

Normal spring climatic conditions in our country are created when the cold is replaced by the southerly monsoon. But the process failed to happen this year, causing the long period of drought.

Worse still, high temperatures prevailed, together with strong winds. This quickened evaporation, drying soil to tens of centimetres deep.

Q: What measures did you take to overcome the drought?

A: The campaign was a real battle right from the beginning. For nearly three years, there had been little rainfall in our country and the amount of water in reservoirs and rivers had decreased by half. We suffered from an absolute lack of water resources.

But our people did not wait for miracles to happen. Every possible step was taken to overcome the drought.

Action committees to minimize drought damage were organized by national, provincial, city and county bodies to conduct the anti-drought campaign under unified control.

Measures were taken across the nation to secure new sources of water and to use it more efficiently.

Pumping facilities were operated at full capacity.

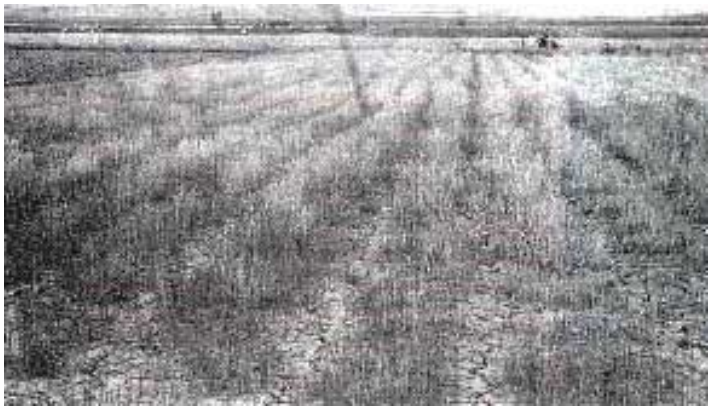
Meanwhile, the government called on the entire population to support the campaign.

Factory and office workers, servicemen, and the young and elderly all turned out to give their assistance.

Indeed, all available material resources and manpower were mobilized to minimize the drought damage.

Q: I think the campaign was a really tough job. What about the damage to agriculture, the sector most severely affected by the drought?

A: The government did its best, but the spell of drought was too long and the sources of water too limited. This inflicted severe damage on agriculture.



The barely field of the Kuso Farm, Sunan District, Pyongyang, suffering the effects of drought.

Tens of thousands of hectares of wheat and barley, the early ripening crops, remained dry.

Rice and maize, the main crops, were no exception. Several hundred thousand hectares of rice and maize fields were hard hit by drought. The shortage of water made it impossible to do rice transplanting in vast areas, and the rice seedlings already transplanted failed to mature due to their short growing period.

Corn was not sown at the usual time. It is not yet mature enough to be harvested.

As a result, this year's yield will fall far short of our expectations.

The hardest-hit areas are south and north Hwanghae and Phyongan provinces, the nation's granaries, where the early ripening wheat, barley and potato generally withered.

The UN FAO, WFP, UNDP and members of several other international organizations travelled around some areas of Kangnam County in Pyongyang, Jaeryong County in South Hwanghae province and North Phyongan Province taking photographs. They expressed their deep concern about the effects of the severe drought.

Q: How will you cope with future droughts?

A: By making use of the experience we have gained this year, we will prepare more irrigation and pumping facilities and secure and preserve water in larger quantities.
For the present, we will do harvesting in time and will preserve the crops safely. This will limit damage a little, I think.

Reporter: Thank you.

Teaching Knowledge of Practical Use

If you go to the suburban district of Ryongsong, Pyongyang, you can see an attractive threestoreyed building at the foot of a small, luxuriantly wooded hill. This is Pyongyang Masan Senior Middle School.

Some time ago I visited the school after hearing the news that it had won the maths and computer programming contests of the district. Entering the compound, I saw many small boards displaying formulas for chemistry, physics and other subjects and foreign language vocabulary lists hanging from the trees. I could tell that the students were working hard.

I met the head master of the school, Hwang Myong Sin, who said, "There is an unusual story behind our school's success at the recent contests. We have been educating the students in the idea that they ought to have patriotic spirit if they want to make a success of their studies. Education is combined with the work to develop their village." He went on to tell me details of their work.

What was particularly interesting to me was that the school was a national model in the afforestation movement. It began the afforestation drive over 30 years ago. When it opened in 1962, the hills were bare as a consequence of the Korean war (June 1950-July 1953).

The school decided to launch a tree-planting campaign and landscape the village beautifully. The tree-planting inculcated in the students genuine love of their country and gave them opportunities to practise what they had learned in their lessons. During the period of spring and autumn afforestation, every Friday afternoon is designated as the time of planting. The school has created more than 300 hectares of forest,

(To be continued on page 32)

Film Director Couple

Kim Kwang Song, chairman of the Korean April 26 Cartoon Studio, and 0 Hye Suk, director of the Korean Film Studio are man and wife.

They are as respectable couple as one could find but while admiring them, people doubt that their family life is happy.

Whenever close friends ask about the matter, the husband says, “To be a true couple loved by the people is our ideal, Of course, our married life is based on our deep mutual understanding, stimulation and trust. Our love began with the promise to become companions in the creation of films, and we found our happiness in striving to succeed in our work.”

The pair were fellow students of Pyongyang University of Dramatic and Cinematic Arts. They studied in the same class, using the same desk, becoming attached to each other in the process.

Whenever they had heated arguments on academic matters, neither of them would make any concession, but in everyday life they were like older brother and younger sister.

This relationship was the result of their pursuit of the same objective rather than the six year agegap between them.

One day, with their graduation looming, Kwang Song, an exsoldier student, confessed his love to the tough girl.

Her reaction was quite blunt, as she said, “I am determined to succeed in film making. I’ll agree if you help me achieve my dream...

“I’m sure to do so, believe me,” he said, agreeing to her proposal.

He waited for her for three years as she pursued her career, despite his parents urging him to
marry because he was already 29 years old.

In those three years he distinguished himself as a promising director with the cartoon ‘A Boy Defeats Robbers”, his maiden work.
He so vividly presented the features of the robbers, with sharp ears, eyes of clairvoyance or big nose as well as the clever boy hero in the film that it grasped the hearts of children as soon as it was first televised. It won the gold torch prize at the 1st Pyongyang Film Festival of Non-aligned and Other Developing Countries.

Hye Suk also made energetic efforts to gain experience in the cutting of films as soon as possible, both in practice and theoretically. In this course she succeeded in producing “Rim Kkok Jong”, ‘My Happiness” and other films.

Later, after marriage, their drive and ambition continued. Kwang Song enhanced his reputation as the invited director of a Korean-French joint-production cartoon “Ganda Haru” and the director of the Korean cartoon “The Boy General’, “The Clever Racoon Dog”, and others.

The creation of a cartoon seems to be easy, but it is anything but, because often complex storylines have to be condensed into a limited number of shots. He established a reputation in the field by creating three or four cartoons a year, writing screenplays and directing at the same time.

These achievements were the result of the couple’s mutual support. Their competitive spirit seemed to give rise to their enthusiasm and creative power to work tirelessly day and night, Kwang Song said, recalling those early days.

As a result, he was awarded the title of Merited Artist four years ago, and his wife was promoted to the post of director in Juche 77(1988).

Hye Suk continued to put all her energy into her creative work, constantly racing against time. With the determination to mainly direct films representative of the ideologi.cal and moral traits of women heroes, she displayed her talent to its full in directing the film ‘The Filial Daughter.”

As a matter of fact she was quite excited to read the screenplay for the film. Her energetic, creative sense of enquiry led her to add the scene “steam whistle” to the script to bring out the theme of the film.

As soon as it was released the film caused a sensation for its new and striking phases of life which attract the audience into its world. The film resulted in a nationwide endeavour to follow the heroine’s way of life and work.

She also directed the films “The Road of Great Service” and ‘Our Chairperson”, produced in succession. After seeing them, people said that the accurate representation of life was the main characteristic of the films.

She still works hard to create something new in her own style, while trying to get a deeper understanding of life through her experiences.

This year, too, the couple are competing with each other to be the first to create a new film.
Who will be the winner?

The family lives in a three-roomed flat in a 40-storey apartment block on the Pothong riverside in Pyongyang. They have a 18-year old son named Kim Jin Hyok, who is studying at the pre

O Hye Suk encouraged in her work.

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Kim Kwang Song (sesated) directing the production of a cartoon

sentation department of Pyongyang University of Dramatic and Cinematic Arts in the wake of his parents. He is recognized as a student of promise.

A family of directors will soon appear

Song Yong Hui

(Continued from page 17)
expected a further, almosi dreamlike event to happen.

One day Presideni Kim IL Sung, at the advanced age of 80, visited the tomb of King Wang Kon. Inspecting all th~ details of the tomb, the Presideni said that Wang Kon was the founder-king of Koryo, the firsi unified state in Korea and gave the instruction to investigate the tomb further and improve it a~ befits that of the founder-king.

That night we Wangs could not get to sleep, moved with reverence for the President, the peerless patriot. He took measures to improve the tomb, which we descendants had had not tended, as a national treasure 01 our era.

Later on the President gave further instructions regarding the tomb on dozens of occasions.

Archeologists and historians were dispatched to the site and a building team was formed. The whole city was engaged in the project.

One day my father, who had been overwhelmed with gratitude for the President, called us brothers together and carefully unrolled a scroll before us. We were surprised to see that it was our clan register, something we had never seen before.

He then told us about the register and our clan's vicissitude-marked past and said:

"In the past, our predecessors valued this register more than their lives and kept it through generations, but in the end neither the greatness of the dignified founder-king nor the register of a reputable clan could defend the fate of his descendants.

"It is solely thanks to President Kim IL Sung that we are able to enjoy this moment and that the reputation of the deceased has been restored, to shine once again in the history of Korea.

" The President is truly the most outstanding figure in the 5,000-year history of Korea and the father to whom we can entrust our futures, so I have decided to present our clan register to him.

" Perhaps the founder-king, if he were still alive, would present it to the greatest man of the current era."

The Wangs thus presented their clan register to the President, displaying their determination to entrust their lives entirely to him and to support him forever.

As a result, the long-hidden clan register came to be put on display at the Koryo Museum 600 years after the end of the Koryo state.

It was an expression of the Wang clan's gratitude to the President who had provided them with a permanent site where they could enjoy happiness generation after generation, and the mansfestation of their will to publicly demonstrate their pride at belonging to Kim IL Sung's nation.

Wang Rok Jin

Table Tennis Star
Kim Hyon Hui

Kim Hyon Hui, a 22-year old rosy-cheeked woman, si a table tennis player held in affection by the Korean people.

She was born the youngest of three daughters in an ordinary worker's family.

It was in the first grade of the primary school that she began to play table tennis, supported by her father, who was fond of the game. She followed in the footsteps of her elder sister, who had already entered the sport, having once been a player for the Ryongnamsan Sports Team.

Every day after school she went to the Youth and Children's Sports School (an extracurricular educational institute). Her dedication, as well as her intelligence and sharpness, enable her to rapidly improve her technique. As a result, she soon began to distinguish herself at national children's championships. She was then transferred to the Pyongyang Club, where her real career as a table tennis player started.

Her debut in international competition came at the 1st Northeast Asian Youth Table Tennis Championships, held in Japan in Juche 82(1993), where she took third place in children's individual event. She was 14 at the time.

Designated as a promising player, she was admitted into the national club, where she further polished her technique. As a left hand shake-hand grip player, she often resorts to an attacking style in matches. Her attack is quite strong and quick, relying on attributes such as her natural ability, great range of movement and the strong spirit she displays in every game.

Merited Athlete Ri Hyong Il, her head coach, said: "I have to believe and love Hyon Hui because she always graspsp her coachi's instructions and competes with confidence. She has constantly put strict demands on herself in training and has shed much more sweat than others because she thinks it will enable her to bring honour to the country."

Kim's efforts paid off. She

(Continued from page 29)

with 200 species of trees like nut pines, chestnut trees, larches and pepper bushes. Every year they fix birds' nests on the trees and kill pests. The forest has become a wonderful teaching garden. Here you can also see boards—each as big as a hand—again showing formulas.

Of course the school puts stress on its theoretical lessons, so that the students become knowledgeable about their subjects. Teachers have collected materials about Korean history, culture and geography; they have made a collection of 10,000 items of basic knowledge, a book of more than 100 geographical maps, and many other reference books and many other reference books and materials for the students. These have been very helpful in improving the students' attainment levels, providing them with effective knowledge for the development of the nation.

Today, many graduates from the school are working in important positions at major national businesses. Students often distinguish themselves by their excellent qualities.

The teaching staff of the school are proud of the job they are doing. But they are determined to continue to improve the quality of education still further.

***Sim Chol Ha*k**

Played an important role in the DPRK women's team that took second place in the team event at the 44th World Table Tennis Championships, held in Britain in Juche 86(1997).

She was also a key player when the DPRK women's team placed second at both the 14th Asian Table Tennis Championships in Japan in Juche 87(1998) and the 13th Asian Contest in Thailand.

This year has been successful, too. She took second place in the women's singles and won the women's doubles at the 64th British Open, and won the women's singles and took second place in the women's doubles at the 6th Qatar Open.

Seeing her play at the Qatar Open, experts and reporters from many countries praised her as "a strong opponent" and "a player perfect in drive technique."

Later, in April, she made a great contribution to enabling the DPRK women's team to finish runner-up in the team event at the 46th World Table Tennis Championships held in Japan.

Kim Hyon Hui under the direction of her coach.

The sentimental girl is very fond of reading and music as well as her obvious love of table tennis.

She continues to Train hard, aiming to achieve the higher goals she has set herself.

Ki Yong Sam

Kim Hyon Hui taking part in an international contest.

Ryu Sik.

Way to a 100-year Life and Its Writers

The book Way to a 100-Year Life, which came off the press with the beginning of the new century, is getting more popular, particularly with the elderly. It is the work of vice-director of Namsan Hosipital Professor Ryu Sik and his family.

Ryu has had a career of 40 odd years as a doctor. An authority on abdominal surgery, he was a co-editor of Clinical Encyclopedia, Encyclopedia of Surgery and dozens of other medical books. He also wrote a book of popular remedies titled Health and Hygiene. His recent book is another publication aimed at the average reader.

As it had been before, time was the biggest problem in writing his latest book. Ryu's anxiety over the lack of time was first noticed by his eldest daughter Ho Chun, a doctor at Pothonggang District People's Hospital.

"Why are you doing such a worthy job alone, father? I can help you as far as possible," she suggested.

His eldest son Rim, a doctor at Pyongyang University of Medicine Hospital, second son Chan and youngest daughter Ho Son, who are both working at national institutions, heard about the problems, too. They all proposed cooperation. His wife, with a long career as a gynaecologist, was nominated as "assistant director" of the writing group. The apartment which had been the couple's quiet residence was turned into a small "publishing house". But the process of preparing the book was not so easy.

Ryu, after a busy period organizing tasks and examining their fulfillment, felt exhausted. He needed absolute rest, but he did not stop his work even in his sick bed, saying that his only wish was to do something beneficial to the people.

One day his second son, who had gone of a trip to confirm data on some old people for the book, returned without having contacted the people in question, bringing stories from their neighbours instead. He looked tired, but Ryu could not pardon or sympathize with him. He rebuked him, saying, "This is a book for the people, you know, and you are fooling them." Then he made

Enjoying a stroll in the park.

The book Way to a 100-Year Life.

preparations to make the trip himself. With great difficulty, the son dissuaded him, and set out to visit the old people's place again.

Ryu often tells his children, "Patriotism is not an empty word. To do even a small job with honesty if it is for the people—that is patriotism."

When the book was almost finished after dozens of discussions and reviews, Ryu still found it imperfect. He organized a re-examination by the family members and asked them to solicit public opinion about the book. The move paid off. Some opinion was that it was oriented toward specialists, while others thought it was boring. They were all valuable comments. Ryu began improvement work, and finally produced the book he had wanted.

Immediately after the book came off the press, it became a bestseller. Some of the public impressions were: "It offers helpful explanation to the end," "It seems to have been written by a professional writerdoctor," and "It illuminates the way to a life of 100-years and gives a bright hope for old age."

The book consists of eight chapters and an index dealing with the major factors of longevity—an explanation of the aging process, psychological health, lifestyle, diet, water, physical exercise, smoking and drinking, and illness.

The first print run has sold out, and the second one is expected soon.

Ryu is now 66, but people are eagerly awaiting another book from his hand.

Kum Yong

Koreans Lived Harmoniously

It is an age-old laudable public morals of Koreans to live harmoniously, sharing joy and sorrow with their neighbours and friends and helping and leading each other forward.

Hyangdo was formed in the Koryo period(918-1392) in accordance with the good morals of the time. It was a public organization aimed at friendship and mutual help. An old record reads: "Hyangdo was an ideal organization. People formed themselves into this organization with their neighbours. When one of their neighbours was in mourning, Hyangdo members carried the funeral bier on their shoulders and made the grave, wearing mourning dress for three months. This was an excellent custom."

People lived harmoniously through this cooperation.

The organization jointly discussed and dealt with local issues. Hyangdo members prepared food and enjoyed themselves together. They attached great importance to mutual aid in both happy and sad events. They rearded a member's misfortune as their own and jointly helped him. They helped each other to keep their promises or correct their immoral conduct. According to another old record, every village had Hyangdo members' promises to correct their wrongs, observe good manners, and help each other in hard work.

They reflect their noble wish and desire to live harmoniously, helping each other and united as friends. They valued their public obligations more highly than power or property.

The Koreans had lived with one and the same customs and manners on one territory from generation to generation, creating one culture. This homogeneous nation was divided by foreign forces in the mid-20th century. It is a lamentable tragedy to all Koreans with a national conscience.

Now Koreans live, torn apart, in the north and south. But they all desire to unite as one and live harmoniously, helping each other again. Half a century of division cannot wipe out this desire. The national similarity and beautiful traditions, customs and manners, formed and consolidated over a long history, still unite the divided Korean nation as one as they always have.

Inventor Jang Yong Sil

From time immemorial our country had many scientists and technicians who went a long way toward enriching the treasurehouse of culture of mankind.

One of them was Jang Yong Sil. He was a technician who led an active life in the 15th century.

As he was born a son of a kisaeng (Korean woman of low birth engaged in entertaining men with dancing of singing in the old society) subordinated to a government office, neighbour children would not chum up with him. Sometimes he fished in a river and at other times installed a watermill by banking up a brook. And at still other times he made a cart to have ▭ puppy pull it. His inventive skill was marvelous enough to call forth the admiration of the beholders.

Having been taken off as a man slave in government employ at the age of 10, he was skilful in making furniture and farm implements.

When he was 16 he went so far as to make carts and build sailing boats, to say nothing of the repair of bow and arrow, sword, spear and other weapons.

One year when a severe drought was lasting long he saw to it that river waters were drawn into grooved wooden barrels to be supplied to dry and paddy fields and thus protect the crops from drought damage. In doing so he made use of a natural law that water flows from high to low places.

Afterward, this method came into wide use across the country.

In 1432 he, together with three technicians, set his hand to building Kanuidae (a meteorological observatory)to be used for astronomical and meteorological observation.

After repeated research they built a wooden observatory and obtained valuable observation data by making use of it, the data almost similar to the actual latitude that our country lies at about 38 degrees north latitude.

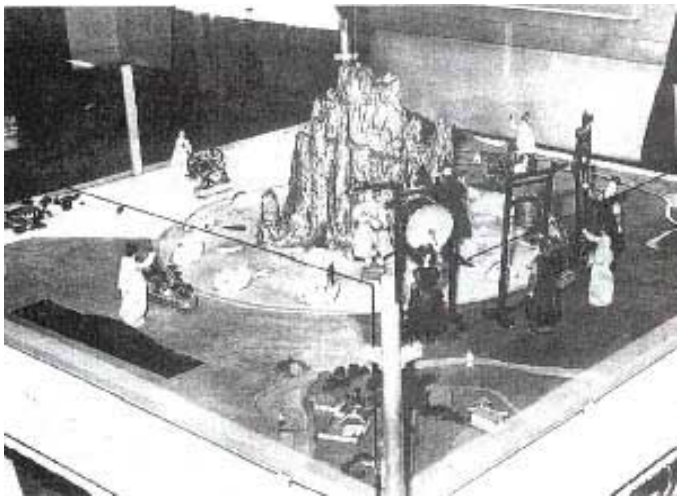
In June 1433 he made Honchonui, an astronomical observation plane. In autumn that year he made another observation plane which was more efficient than the previous one. In 1434 he finished the setting up of Kanuidae.

After that he buckled down to the improvement of metal types in cooperation with many scientists and technicians. Im making printing types he divided shapes of letters into two, that is, large and small ones. On top of it, he saw to it that strokes in each character were made thin a little.

As a result, he succeeded in making new printing types of more than 200,000 characters which make shapes of letters look better.

Then he set about the manufacture of an automatic water clock.

People in ancient times made use of the sun and stars to mea



The automatic water clock.

The rain gauge.

sure time. Therefore, they could ont apply this method on cloudy and rainy days.
In order to make an automatic water clock capable of surmounting this limitation he conducted research energetically. This enabled him to manufacture it early in the spring of 1434. This clock began to move from July 1 that year. It has twelve dolls going round and making the hours known to the people by beating drums between eight o'clock in the evening and four o'clock in the morning and by ringing bells in the remaining hours.
In January 1438 he completed and automatic water clock which enabled everyone to know the change of seasons and the passage of time at a glance.
Later, he manufactured a lot of instruments for astronomical observation, including a sundial and instruments for measuring the altitude and rise of the sun.
When he passed his 50-year milestone, he set about research into the measurement of the amount of rain falling every year.
Several years passed since he got started on this research. But no success worthy of special mention was registered and the wet season set in. One day he found that a large earthenware jar put outside to catch the rainwater was brimming over with water. The moment he saw the scene a novel idea occurred to him and led him to make a rain gauge for the first time.
The rain gauge he had invented was almost similar in outer appearance to the hyetometer currently in use for the measurement of the amount of precipitation.
In this way he was a distinguished inventor who demonstrated the intelligence of our nation and made a great contribution to human civilization through his achievements in research work.

Ancient Korean Newspaper Jobo

A newspaper is an intimate traveling companion in the journey of life, informing people about developments in various fields, such as politics, the economy and culture, in timely and accurate fashion.
The first news bulletin with such features appeared in Korea in 1275, the Koryo period. The feudal rulers of Koryo at the time issued Sonjon Sosik (Information News), in order to convey the king's orders to local institutions and have them strictly observed.
As Sonjo Sosik, however, only contained the king's orders and was irregularly published, it bore little resemblance to present-day newspapers.
The first publication which can be said to be a fullyfledged in its content and system of publication was Jobo, which appeared in late 15th century.
Jobo means a newspaper of the royal court, also called Kibyolji, Kwanbo and Hansongbo.
Jobo carried the king's orders, and political issues like the decisions and policies of the royal court, appointments of government officials, farming, natural phenomena, living conditions and various other events taking place.
The newspaper gave people easy access to information about the royal court and the situation in the country.
Editing and publishing of Jobo was performed by Sungjongwon, the secretariat of the king.
The size of Jobo varied according to the amount of information available for dissemination.
Articles were not given titles, only the source, and each issue was dated at the top.
Jobo was distributed to all parts of the country-from central and local organs to a remote district in border areas.
It was published every day, even in the period when the country was moving its capital due to foreign invasion.
This suggests the Jobo was the first Korean newspaper to be edited and published regularly. It was informative, character essential to a newspaper.
Jobo existed till 1894 when Sungjongwon was disbanded.

Ryu Kyong Won

Nuclear Energy and DPRK-US Relations

A Statement Published After Four Months

In the initial stages of the current US administration's term in office, it threatened the DPRK as though it could crush the country at a stroke, insisting on a "tough stance". Faced with strong resistance from the DPRK and the pressure of the international community, it made public a statement on June 6 calling for the resumption of dialogue. In response, the DPRK said that the suggestion of the US to reopen dialogue, which had been suspended by the US for four months, "is worthy of taking notice of, but we cannot but doubt its true intention." While saying that it will resume dialogue unconditionally, the US fixed the agenda unilaterally and opened it to the public. It declared that the topics for discussion are the matters of nuclear development, missiles and conventional armed forces. The light water reactor (LWR) project, to be provided by the US in return for the DPRK's nuclear freeze, has become infeasible, yet it still insists on a 'nuclear inspection". It is a preposterous proposal. The DPRK's plan of missiles assumes peaceful character. The 'inspection of missiles" demanded by the US is the infringement of the DPRK's sovereignty and a foolish request aimed at investigating in secret its defence industry and military bases. Its demand for a cut in the conventional armed forces of the DPRK is tantamount to the disarmament of the country, the opposing side in the hostilities, given the condition that US troops stay in south Korea and their war moves continue.

The DPRK, through the statement of a Foreigu Ministry spokesman on June 18, clarified its principled stand that DPRK-US talks should be held on a fair and equal basis and the agenda should include the renunciation of the hostile policy of the US toward Korea and compensation of the energy forgone due to the delay in construction of the LWRs.

The provision of LWRs is the basic article of the DPRK-US Agreed Framework adopted in 1994. In it, the US agreed to make arrangements for the provision to the DPRK of two light water reactors with a total generating capacity of 2 million kw by the target date of 2003, to offset the energy forgone due to the freeze of the DPRK's graphite-moderated reactors.

DPRK-US relations are based on this agreement. But the LWR project has been seriously delayed and, because of this, the Agreed Framework hangs in the balance. The DPRK and the US should deal

with this grave state of affairs responsibly and priority should be given to the discussion of this matter in any dialogue.

Third Choice Is Reasonable

Dialogue is aimed at the improvement of relations, and trust is clearly a prerequisite in this process. The US, however, while saying it will hold dialogue, continues to threaten the DPRK and arrogantly sets unreasonable terms. From this, we cannot but wonder what the true intentions of the US are. It seems obvious that its real purpose lies elsewhere.

First, the US sets unacceptable matters as agenda items and shifts responsibility for the rupture of dialogue onto the DPRK, in a bid to swallow it by force of arms.

In pursuance of this aim, the US provokes the DPRK with hostile statements instead of showing goodwill and peaceful intentions. It continues to stage military exercises and is deploying ultra-modern warships along the East Coast of Korea. In its report, a group of military experts proposed the expansion of information systems to improve the operational deployment capacity of US forces in south Korea and Japan, the frontline troops in any future conflict on the Korean peninsula.

Second, the US plans to break the Agreed Framework by avoiding the discussion of compensation for energy forgone due to the delay in the provision of the LWRs.

The resumption of dialogue is not a gift of the US to the DPRK. Even if dialogue is not resumed, the DPRK will have nothing to be afraid of and will remain undamaged. But the US is paying no heed to the DPRK's reasonable agenda and insisting on its unreasonable ones. The US administration alleges that without discussion of its agenda, 'dialogue will not progress", and worse still, it is raising the nonexistent problem of "cyber terrorism" and 'kidnapping of Japanese" by the DPRK.

So what will be the effect of the two choices of the US—strike at the DPRK and the cancellation of the Agreed Framework?

The first choice means a war, which will bring irretrievable results to the US.

The DPRK has held fast to the principle of striking and annihilating those who invade its territory and impair its dignity and sovereignty. And it has

the power to put it into effect.

If the US ignites a war in Korea, it will turn into a third world war, a thennonuclear war.

The US has to consider the second choice carefully.

The Agreed Framework defines the offer of the LWRs by the US in return for the nuclear freeze of the DPRK as the measure for simultaneous action. If the US does not fulfil its duty to offer LWRs till 2003, the DPRK cannot but release nuclear freeze. The DPRK cannot be restricted indefinitely to the DPRK-US Agreed Framework now in little progress and has no choice but to take its own way. The US will be fully responsible for the consequences to be resulted in it.

In this sense, none of the two choices is beneficial to the US, yet the US now turns its back on the DPRK-US Agreed Framework, despite the lack of any political and moral justification. Apology for failure to complete the LWR project by the target date of 2003 and acceptance of demands of the DPRK— this third choice is the most reasonable option for the US.

Time Always Advances

The DPRK-US Agreed Framework is a legally binding document in which both countries pledge to improve relations by solving the nuclear problem and eliminating the mutual distrust that currently exists.

The DPRKs development of graphite-moderated reactors was the inevitable result of history. The country suffered from its limited power-generating capacity and sought ways to relieve the situation. When the DPRK tried to buy LWRs from Western countries, it failed to for political reasons. Therefore, the DPRK made public the creation of atomic power industry and concentrated on developing its own nuclear power technology, based on uranium and graphite, resources which are abundant in the country. But the US ignored the facts and created a nuclear crisis, spreading its nuclear weapons suspicion.

In June 1994 President Kim IL Sung said to the ex-US president Jimmy Carter, who visited the DPRK, that the occurrence of the “nuclear suspicion” was caused by the misunderstanding and distrust between the DPRK and the US and the way to solve it relied on trust. As a result, DPRK-US talks were held and the DPRK-US Agreed Framework was published, the gist of which is to freeze the nuclear facilities of the DPRK in return for US provision of light water reactors to the DPRK.

Both sides expected that, in accordance with the Agreed Framework, US security concerns would be answered, by the freeze of the DPRK’s graphite-moderated reactors and related facilities, and the distrust of the DPRK in the US would be eliminated with the provision of the LWR project by the US. The DPRK fulfilled its obligations from the agreement fully sacrificing its nuclear power industry. But the US did not do so. Seven years have passed since the publication of the Agreed Framework, but even the site preparations have not yet been completed. The general consensus is that 2010 is a more likely completion date for the project.

The US should apologize to the DPRK for failing to fulfil the Geneva agreement and compensate it for the loss of electricity caused by the postponement of the LWR construction and the consequent economic loss.

If the US has the will to hold dialogue, it should give up its hostile policy toward the DPRK and place on the agenda practical measures t~o fulfil the items of the DPRK-US Agreed Framework and the DPRKUS Joint Communique.

The US should accept the DPRK’s fair proposal without delay. The clock is ticking.

Kim Sun Ryong

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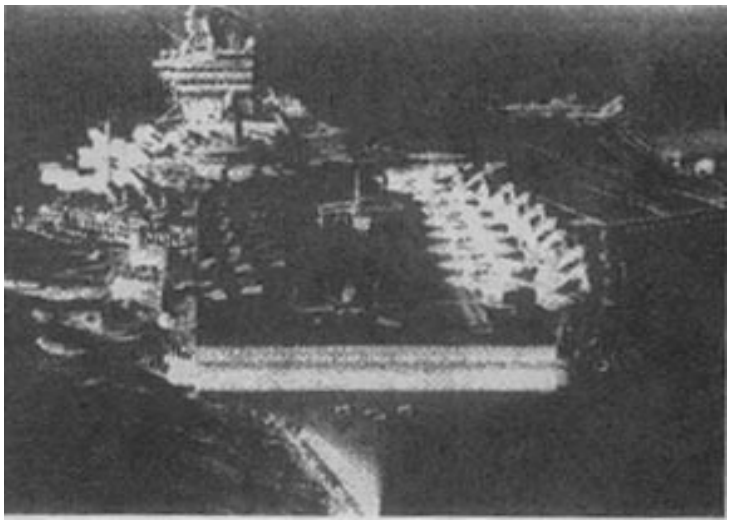


The US nuclear-powered aircraft carrier sailing around the Korean peninsula.

Japan's Move to Develop Blo-Chemical Weapons

Japan is pushing ahead with preparations for bio-chemical warfare. Recently, an advisory institute to former defence minister, named "conference on dealing with bio-chemical weapons", issued a report which referred to a "threatened attack" using biochemical weapons. The report pointed out that among the microorganisms useful in coping with this "threat" is "one that needs the air-tight facilities of BSL 4, the most secure mode for handling". BSL is the safe-handling requirement which consists of four levels according to the extent of the danger posed by the bacteria, viruses or infectious microbes. Level 4 applies to the most dangerous, such as the smallpox virus.

Japan's Defence Agency is planning to form development and medical laboratories at a base of the Ground Self-Defence Force in Tokyo, and establish research headquarters at the Ground SDF's Asakiri base, under the pretext of preparing for
the 'use of bio-chemicel weapons". The report does not exclude the use of the smallpox virus and the Bacillus anthracis in its examination of the effectiveness of the protection equipment.

With the publication of the report, Japan disclosed itself to be a prime mover in the development of bio-chemical weapons, even though it talks much about the prohibition of such weapons. The report demonstrates that Japan is truly a dangerous nation that may drive mankind into another holocaust with its heinous weaponry.

Japan has long promoted preparations for bio-chemical warfare. It decided to set up a professional biological warfare unit within the Ground SDF, and in April last year the House of Representatives adopted an amendment to the Law on Organization of the Defence Agency which stipulated the setting up of emergency measure headquarters in the SDF, to be centred on

The modernization programme of the Japanese Maritime SDF is being carried out at full speed, with the aim of overseas aggression.

research into biological weapons.

Japan is notorious for having already brought great suffering to humanity with bio-chemical weapons. Nevertheless, it is plotting to develop new weapons of this kind, in order to arm the SDF to carry out its plan of invasion. It is known that imperialist Japan, during its aggressive war on the Asian mainland, mobilized germ-warfare units, such as units 731 and 516 and Nami Unit
8604, to conduct physical experiments on people in Korea and other Asian countries and commit murder. Japan's bio-chemical activities slaughtered or caused great pain to many Asians, and it is planning to repeat those crimes again in the new century.

The SDF is taking part in biochemical exercises with American forces, availing itself of the American policy to stifle Korea, It has been equipping its Aegis ships with the ability to fight chemical warfare. An American defence report said, "Friendly and ally nations should be continuously urged to train and equip their armies in such a way as to enable them to operate effectively in a bio-chemical environment."

In response to growing criticism of its moves, Japan refers to a certain nation's 'development of bio-chemical weapons and their threat", in an absurd attempt to evade denunciation. There seems no doubt that the SDF is developing into a dangerous attack-oriented force equipped with all kinds of lethal weapons.

The peace-loving people of the world must see squarely the danger of bio-chemical warfare activities of Japan and heighten vigilance in their fight for peace.

Jo Thaek Born

The modernization programme of the Japanese Maritime SDF is being carried out at full speed, with the aim of overseas aggressions.

Right-Wing Groups Spearhead Revival of Militarism in Japan

In Japan, right-wing reactionary organizations are becoming more vocal, as part of a trend toward militaristic fascism.

Such bodies now number several hundreds, among which a dozen of them boast memberships in the hundreds of thousands.

One of them, the Growing House Political Federation, has set as its goal the conducting of a nationwide campaign for "Japan-building as the Emperor's state", the "institution of an independent constitution", "preparation of Self-Defence Forces", and the "hoisting of the Hinomaru (Flag of Japan)"

Another, the National Assembly for Defending Japan, advocates revising the current constitution which stipulates renouncement of war and denial of the right of belligerency, building an army and dispatching forces for overseas operation.

The focus of their militaristic propaganda is a call for a return to traditional Japanese values, based on the Emperor system, and for the status of 'patriotic martyrs" and 'heroes" to be given to those who died in the war of aggression in Asia, particularly to figures regarded as war criminals outside Japan.

Memorial Service for War Dead

The Japanese govermnent recently held a memorial service for the dead from the Second World War.

Many newly-exhumed remains have recently been shipped to Japan from abroad and buried in a public cemetery in Tokyo.

A vice-minister of public welfare and labour described the dead as the cornerstone of Japan's present-day peace and prosperity, and expressed his condolences to them.

The deceased had been active in the war of aggression and plunder, flying the bloodstained Hinomaru. The Japanese authorities' cheap display of sorrow over them provokes disgust and ridicule from the people.

Against the backdrop of the Japanese authorities' official visit to Yasukuni Shrine and the publishing of history textbooks which gloss over the country's crime-ridden history, the recent memorial service is yet more proof that Japanese conservatives are actively campaigning for the revival of militarism.

Japan's Participation in the Korean War Under the Spotlight Again

The fact that in October 1950, when the Korean war (1950-53) was at its height, 53 mine sweepers and 1,200 men of the Japanese Navy swept the sea for mines off Wonsan, East Sea of Korea at the request of the United States, has been highlighted once again.

It is well known that during the Korean war the whole land of Japan turned into a base for Borties, logistics and maintenance of the US war effort. At the time of the US landing operations in Inchon and Wonsan, most of the mine-sweeping operations were undertaken by the old Japanese Navy.

On July 27, 1950, a month after the outbreak of the Korean war, Reuters reported that 25,000 Japanese servicemen were participating in the Korean war.

During that time, any military action by Japan was prohibited as a result of its defeat in the Second World War.

International Conference Against Distortion of History Textbooks

In June, the Asian Solidarity Emergency Conference against the distortion of history textbooks was held in Tokyo, Japan.

The recent conference, with the participation of more than 280 delegates from Japan and other Asian countries, aimed to find ways and means to oppose the distortion of history textbooks in Japan and write joint accounts of the history of the region.

The participants claimed unanimously that the history textbooks written by Japanese ultra-rightists represent an attempt to turn Japan into a militaristic state once again.

Popular Masses Are Makers

of Soclo-History

The philosophical principles of Juche tell us what our world comprising nature and society is, and how it changes and develops. They clarify what viewpoint and attitude we should approach the world with. But the soc jo-historical principles of Juche answer what changes and develops society, one component of the world, and what we should do to advance our history and develop society.

We have already mentioned that the socio-historical principles of Juche include four major principles.

In this issue we explain the first principle by answering the question: "Who is the driving force of the socio-historical movement?"

Leader Kim Jong IL said: "The social movement is started and developed by the independent, creative and conscious activities of the people, its driving force."

If we are to have a scientific understanding of how society develops and how history advances we, first of all, must know who the makers or driving force of history are.

The correct explanation of this matter is essential to the clarification of all other problems arising in understanding the essence, character and driving force of the socio-historical movement, in other words, the laws of socio-historical development.

The Juche idea teaches that the popular masses are the makers of history. That is, history is developed by their struggle to transform nature and society. To be more concrete, in the course of their struggle for independence, nature and society are constantly transformed and history progresses.

The makers of history here means a driving force that purposefully causes and pushes forward the movement to meet its demands and interests. But the natural movement has no such driving force. The natural movement spontaneously takes place through the mutual action of the objectively existing matters. But the social movement is caused and developed by the positive action and role of its driving force.

The struggle to remake nature is also a form of the social movement. This struggle develops because there are people interested in it, causing and promoting it.

The struggle for social reform is caused and developed by the positive action of its driving force, interested in destroying the old society and setting up a new one.

This means that the social movement, unlike the natural movement, has makers who purposefully cause and develop it.

The historical lesson from the Paris Commune

Paris workers and other people rose in a revolution on March 18, 1871. Through this revolution, the central committee of the Paris National Self-Defence Corps seized political power, and on March 28 the Paris Commune was proclaimed. The commune carried out a number of revolutionary pollcies. The Parisian people fought bravely against the counter-revolutionary forces to defend the commune's cause. But they could not repulse the reactionary offensive. The commune existed for only 72 days, meeting its tragic end with the last battle in Monmart.

Despite their heroic struggle, the Paris workers and people could not defend their power because they did not have proper leadership. This is the most important lesson from the history of the Paris Commune.

Pakistani Self-Reliance Society

The Pakistani Self-Reliance Society was established in Karachi in Juche 88(1999). Professor Akrak Aktar Tamidi said at the inaugural meeting of figures from academic and public circles, "Self-reliance is the only way to build an independent, prosperous Pakistan. The DPRK's experience shows that self-reliance is the only way to be politically independent, economically self-sufficient and selfreliant in national defence.' He stressed that the society's purpose of the formation was to study Korea's idea of self-reliance.

The only beings that act purposefully for themselves to meet their demands and interests according to their decisions are people, independent, creative and conscious social beings. The popular masses are a social collective combined with the working people as its main force for the common creative activities to meet the independent demands. People can be the driving force or makers of the social movement and cause and develop it positively and purposefully as they are independent, creative and conscious. They can be so only when they belong to the popular masses. So, when we say that people are the driving force or makers of the social movement, we mean the popular masses. Only the popular masses can be makers of the social movement. It is because everything in society is created by them.

The social movement is an undertaking to remake nature, create material and cultural wealth, and reshape society to establish a more advanced social system. The popular masses are the ones who directly undertake the creation of material and cultural wealth and reform the social system.

The popular masses are the creators of all the material and cultural wealth in the world. In all societies, the popular masses remake nature, develop the productive forces, and create material wealth. They also create the intellectual and cultural wealth. Progressive thinkers, excellent scientists and talented writers and artists are produced by the popular masses. The masses also carry out progressive social reforms. They destroyed the old social systems to establish new progressive ones developing the slave-owning society into the feudal society, the feudal society into the capitalist society, the capitalist society into the socialist society.

In all ages and societies, the popular masses are makers of history.

The position and role of the popular masses as makers of history were not the same in all societies. In exploitative societies they did not hold their position as makers of history, nor play role as such.

To hold their position and play their role as makers of history, the popular masses must have proper leadership.

The leadership of the popular masses in the working class revolutionary struggle of our age is implicitly the guidance by their leader. Only when they arm themselves with the leader's ideology and are united as one political force behind him, can they perform their responsibility and role as real makers of history.

The popular masses have now emerged as the legitimate masters of their destiny, and are reshaping the world and making a new human history to gratify their aspirations and demands. This is the irresistible trend of our age.

Monument to Three Charters for National Reunification

The Monument to Three Charters for National Reunification has been completed in Pyongyang. It was officially opened on August 14, marking the 56th anniversary of national liberation (August 15, 1945).

The monument arches over the entrance to Thongil Street, the southern gate to Pyongyang.

The monument and its associated facilities cover a ground area of over 100,000 square metres. The edifice is 30 metres high and 61.5 metres wide, symbolising the three charters and the June 15 North-South Joint Declaration respectively.

On the upper part of the monument is an emblem on which are engraved the words Three Charters, the Korean map and magnolia, reflecting the belief of the nation that it can establish a reunified, powerful nation, rich and prosperous, if it holds fast to the banner of three charters, the main content of which is the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity; a proposal for founding the Democratic Federal Republic of Koryo; and a ten-point programme of the great unity of the entire nation.

The natural granite construction takes the form of two ecstatic women in traditional costumes holding aloft the mark with their arms outstretched.

At the both sides of the base are bronze reliefs depicting the three principles of national reunification, the DFRK founding proposal, the ten-point programme of the great unity of the entire nation and a reunified Korea.

The basement of the tower consists of four rooms which display 740 stones donated by various countries and Koreans from the north, south and overseas.

An inscription stone bearing President Kim fl Sung's instruction stands close to the monument. He said that if the country is to be reunified, all fellow Koreans, whether they live in the north, south or overseas, should turn out to support the reunification movement, and all the compatriots, transcending differences in ideas, ideals, political views and religious beliefs, should firmly unite as one on the principle of great national unity.

Eight hectares of landscaped open space, with tens of thousands of trees planted in it, surrounds the monument.

Grand National Reunification

Festival

The Grand National Reunification Festival 2001 opened with due ceremony in front of the newly-erected Monument to Three Charters for National Reunification on August 18 in Pyongyang.

Attending the opening ceremony were senior officials from the Party, government bodies and public organizations, patriotic reunification lighters—the unconverted long-term prisoners, delegates to the festival from various organizations and working people in Pyongyang.

Vice-President Kim Yong Dae of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly, who was chairman of the preparatory committee for the festival, made a welcoming speech. He said:

"Holding the Grand National Reunification Festival 2001 here on the significant Liberation Day of August 15 is a clear demonstration of the unshakeable determination and will of all the 70 million Koreans to accomplish the great cause of national reunification in the near future, carrying forward the patriotic tradition of the struggle to accomplish the historic cause of national liberation under the banner of independence.

"With this current festival as momentum, our nation will further accelerate the movement for independent national reunification which started under the banner of the June 15 North-South Joint Declaration with fresh hope and conviction.

"Independence is the life and the supreme interest of a nation that can never be compromised under any circumstances.

"Let us turn out as one man to the sacred patriotic cause to glorify the dignity and honour of the nation, holding fast to the banner of independence, the validity and vitality of which have clearly been testified to in our history full of trials."

Vice-Chairman Pak Jas Ro of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan was the next to take the stand. He said;

"The three charters for national reunification clarified by President Kim IL Sung form a great single reunification charter which elucidates the basic principles and ways, a bright blueprint, to a reunified nation.

"National independence is an ideal that can rally the entire Korean people into one.

"The emotional scene of overseas and home people mixing with each other is the beacon of a reunified country which will shine with independence."

Vice-Chairman An Kyong Ro of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland said:

"After the June 15 declaration was published, a
fresh change took place in the approach to the national reunification issue. All the Koreans must unite as one in the spirit of national independence and patriotism, and cooperate with each other in solidarity for reunification."

The delegates to the festival planted trees around the monument to commemorate the event.

A performance was given by artistes from Pyongyang to celebrate the opening of the festival, and a number of other colorful functions took place during the festival. They included inter-Korean meetings of industrial and agricultural workers representatives, an inter-Korean women's forum on implementing the June 15 joint declaration, a youth solidarity forum for national reunification in the new century, a joint performance of artistes and compatriots from the north, south and abroad, the consultation of Presidium of Pomminryon (National Alliance for the Country's Reunification), a meeting of the members of the National Economic Cooperation Federation and south Korean businessmen, a meeting of religious groups of the north and the south, and round-table talks between members of the National Reconciliation Council of the North and the All-People's Council for National Reconciliation and Cooperation of the South.

The young people of Pyongyang held an evening of entertainment to mark the festival.

During their stay the participants in the festival visited revolutionary battlesites in the Mt. Paektu area, Pyongyang city and several other places.

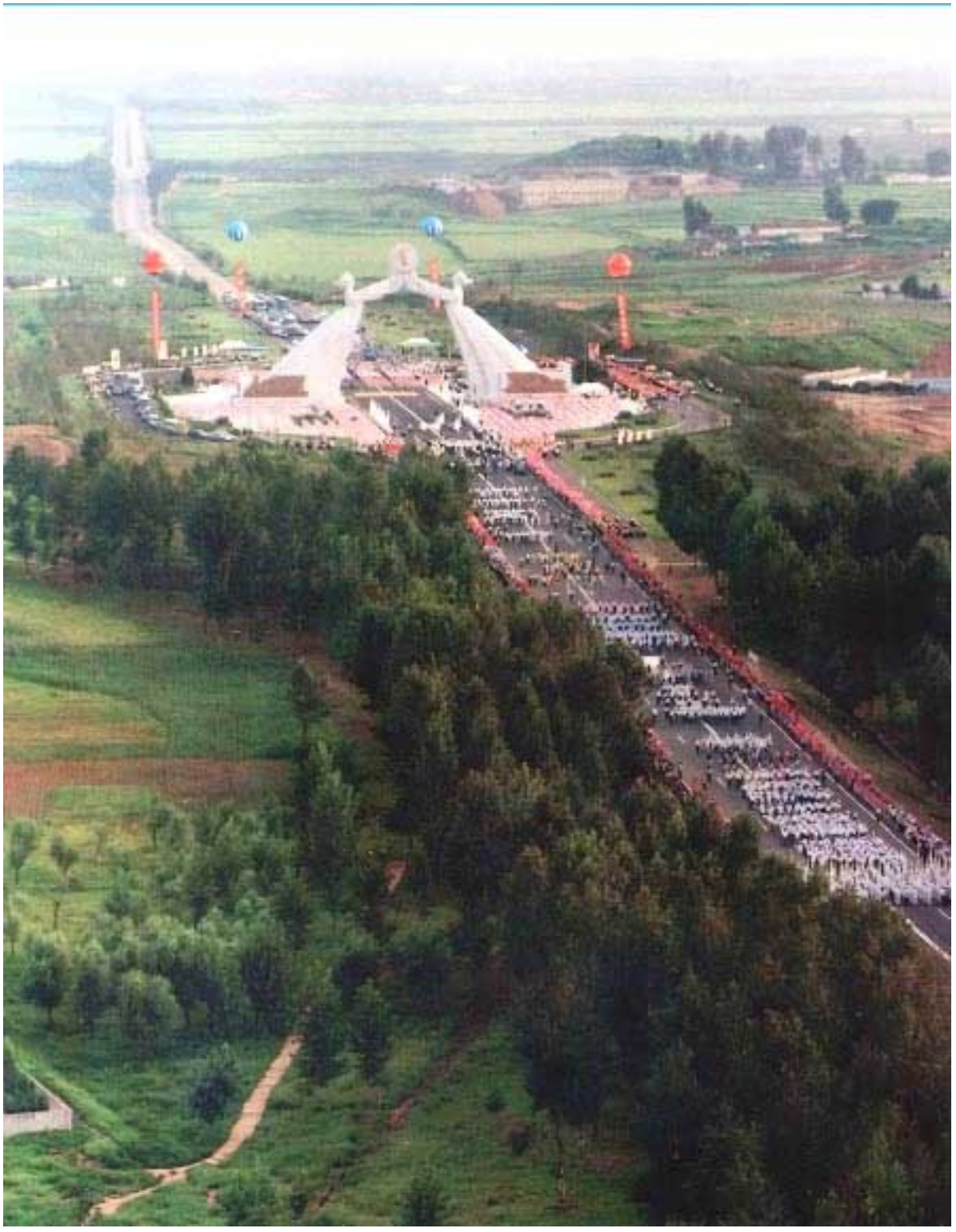
Delegates from many different organizations noted the success achieved in the process of creating solidarity and waging joint struggle on the way to national reunification during the recent period. They expressed their firm will to vigorously advance along the road to independent reunification and resolved to contribute to efforts for national cooperation and prosperity.

The preparatory committee for the festival arranged a banquet in honour of the festival delegates at the Mansudae Art Theatre, in the central part of Pyongyang.

President Kim Yong Nani of the DPRK SPA Presidium delivered a speech to the gathered delegates.

The festival, which opened amidst the ardent aspiration for reunification of all Koreans and great interest from people at home and abroad, closed on the 16th.

Chairman Ryom Sun Gil of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea made a speech at the closing ceremony, in which he said: "The current festival, which was held with delegation from a diverse group of organizations gathered together, was a significant, grand meeting for national reunification and prosperity.



Monument to Three Charters for National Reunification.

" The call for reunification which resounded at the festival venue was a fierce eruption of the firm will of our nation to achieve reunification as early as possible. " The historic June 15 declaration is a bright blueprint for reunited nation-building." By thoroughly implementing the declaration, the whole nation will hasten their way to national independence and prosperity.

Delegates from the north, south and abroad march in Pyongyang,

The ceremony to unveil the monument is on.

"All the Koreans must turn out to oppose the moves of the anti-reunification forces cooperating with aggressive foreign forces, who have no interest in the joint declaration and lay stumbling blocks to its implementation

" Whoever is of Korean blood should firmly unite under the banner of the June 15 declaration and devote himself to the patriotic cause of reunification."

Yang Un Sik, head of the delegation of the Association of Koreans in the United States, said:

"Fondly recalling the immortal exploits of President Kim IL Sung, who fathered the three charters, the nation's reunification programme, I firmly resolve to hasten the realization of a reunified country under its banner.

" What was voiced together by the participants and the spirit of unity and harmony displayed at the festival were a demonstration of the validity and vitality of the historic June 15 declaration, a landmark for reunification in the new century.

" Reality proves that national dignity and pride can never be explained in terms of a country's size of territory or population.

"The great sense of pride and dignity of the Korean nation is its greatest fortune and honour, and it comes from having a leader, Kim Joag Ii, who defends and glorifies national sovereignty.

"Rosy and bright is the future of reunified Korea under the leadership of Kim Jong Ii, the sun of the 21st century.

"We overseas compatriots will firmly defend the national sovereignty as our life and dedicate our all to the nation's reunification and prosperity."
The Grand National Reunification Festival 2001,

Receiving a warm welcome from the citizens.

Youth solidarity stage for the new century.

A meeting of religious groups of the north and the south of Korea.

Inter-Korean women's reunification forum on implementing the June 15 Joint Declaration.

Conference of the Presidium of Pomminryon.

Inter-Korean meeting of industrial workers.

Magenificiently staged, amidst 70 million Koreans' ardent desire and fervent patriotic zeal, was a historic event which demonstrated the correctness and vitality of the Juche-oriented line of independent reunification. It showed the reunification of June 15 North-South Joint Declaration, and displayed the firm will to accomplish the cause of reunification by the nation's own efforts.

Inter-Korean meeting of agricultural workers.

South Korean delegation on the summit of Mt. Paektu.

Delegates cruise on the Taedong River.

Delegates to the Grand National Reunification Festival visit the International Friendship Exhibitoin.

Visiting pohyon Temple at Mt. Myohyang.